ALL ABOUT HISTORY

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RISE OF THE

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FUTURE
ISSUE 118

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A 16th century miniature of Mehmed II leading his forces in the Siege of Belgrade in 1456

Welcome

Most often we study and discuss history in silos. We focus on a particular category, be it a nation, a time period, the reign of a particular monarch or dynasty, etc. One of the great things about working on **All About History** is that you get to see those things overlap more clearly. I'll admit, I wasn't terribly familiar with the story of the Ottoman Empire before working here, but it has become a fascination for me, not least because of the overlaps it reveals with periods of history I am more familiar with.

As you read through our many features this issue, I would invite you to consider what else was happening in the world as these events took place. In particular, what was happening as the Ottoman dynasty was established and what influence was it having on the nations around it? We couldn't ask for better guides to this story with Jem Duducu giving us his expert analysis of the rise of the Ottomans, while we also chatted with Marc David Baer about Suleiman the Magnificent.

Elsewhere we learn about the birth of punk music, the hunt for Atlantis, who the Huns really were, why the Battle of Crécy was a turning point for European history and tell you all about the Wars of the Roses. There are lots of interesting topics to get into, so I will keep you no longer. I hope you enjoy the issue.

Jonathan Gordon
Editor

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ALL ABOUT HISTORY
Future Publishing Limited
Quay House, The Ambury, Bath, BA1 1UA

Editorial
Editor **Jonathan Gordon**
jonathan.gordon@futurenet.com
Art Editor **Kym Winters**
Features Editor **Callum McKelvie**
Staff Writer **Emily Staniforth**
Production Editor **Iain Noble**
Editor in Chief **Tim Williamson**
Senior Art Editor **Duncan Crook**

Contributors
Hareth Al Bustani, Jem Duducu, William E Welsh, Josh West, David Williamson

Cover images
Joe Cummings, Alamy, Anatomical Museum collection/ University of Edinburgh, Royal Collection Trust

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Joe Cummings, Kevin McGivern, Adrian Mann, Alamy, Getty Images, Thinkstock
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Advertising
Media packs are available on request
Advertising Director **Amanda Burns**
amanda.burns@futurenet.com
0330 390 6036
Account Manager **Garry Brookes**
garry.brookes@futurenet.com
020 3970 4176

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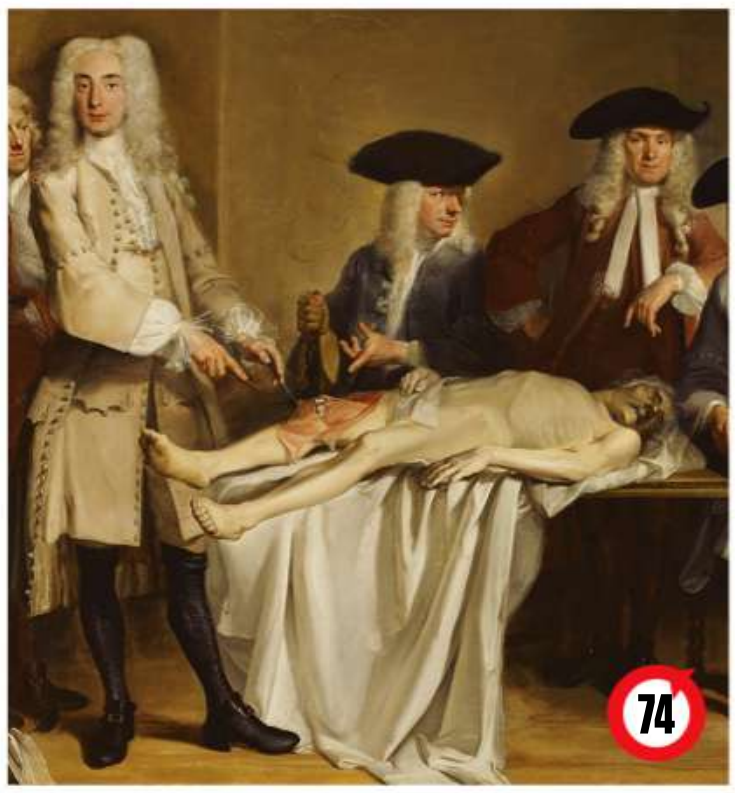

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Rise of the Ottoman Empire

How the great sultans built a dynasty to challenge the powers of Europe

Defining Moments

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2 July 1937

AMELIA EARHART DISAPPEARS

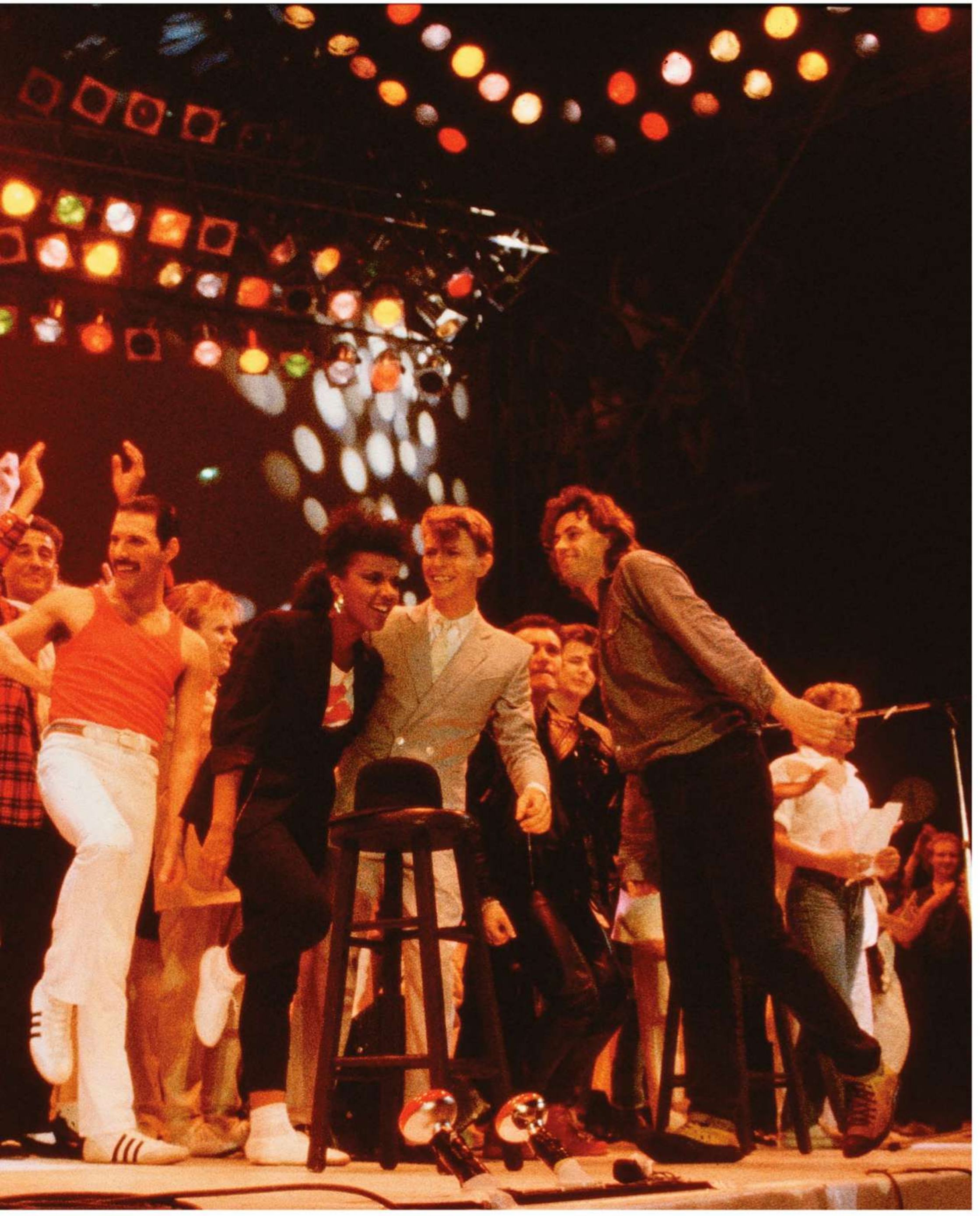
On 1 June 1937, aviator Amelia Earhart took off from Miami in a Lockheed Electra aircraft. Having stopped at several destinations during her endeavour to circumnavigate the globe, Earhart left New Guinea on 2 July and was expected to make her next stop on Howland Island in the Pacific Ocean. She never arrived. Earhart was declared legally dead in 1939.

© Getty Images

13 July 1985

LIVE AID RAISES APPROXIMATELY £150 MILLION

The initiative of musicians Bob Geldof and Midge Ure, Live Aid consisted of a series of concerts across the world to raise funds for the people affected by the Ethiopian famine. At a packed Wembley Stadium in London, stars including David Bowie, Elton John and Queen performed to a global TV audience of an estimated 1.9 billion people.



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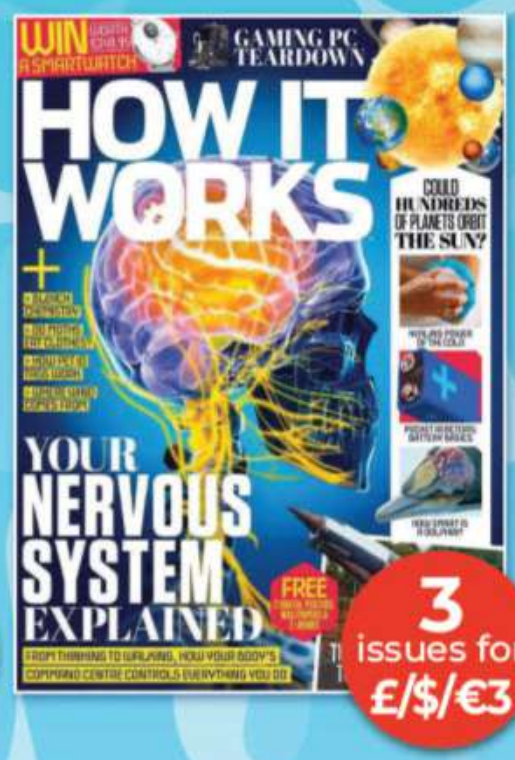

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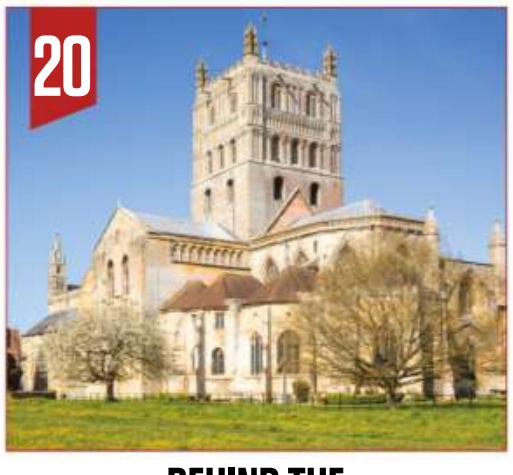
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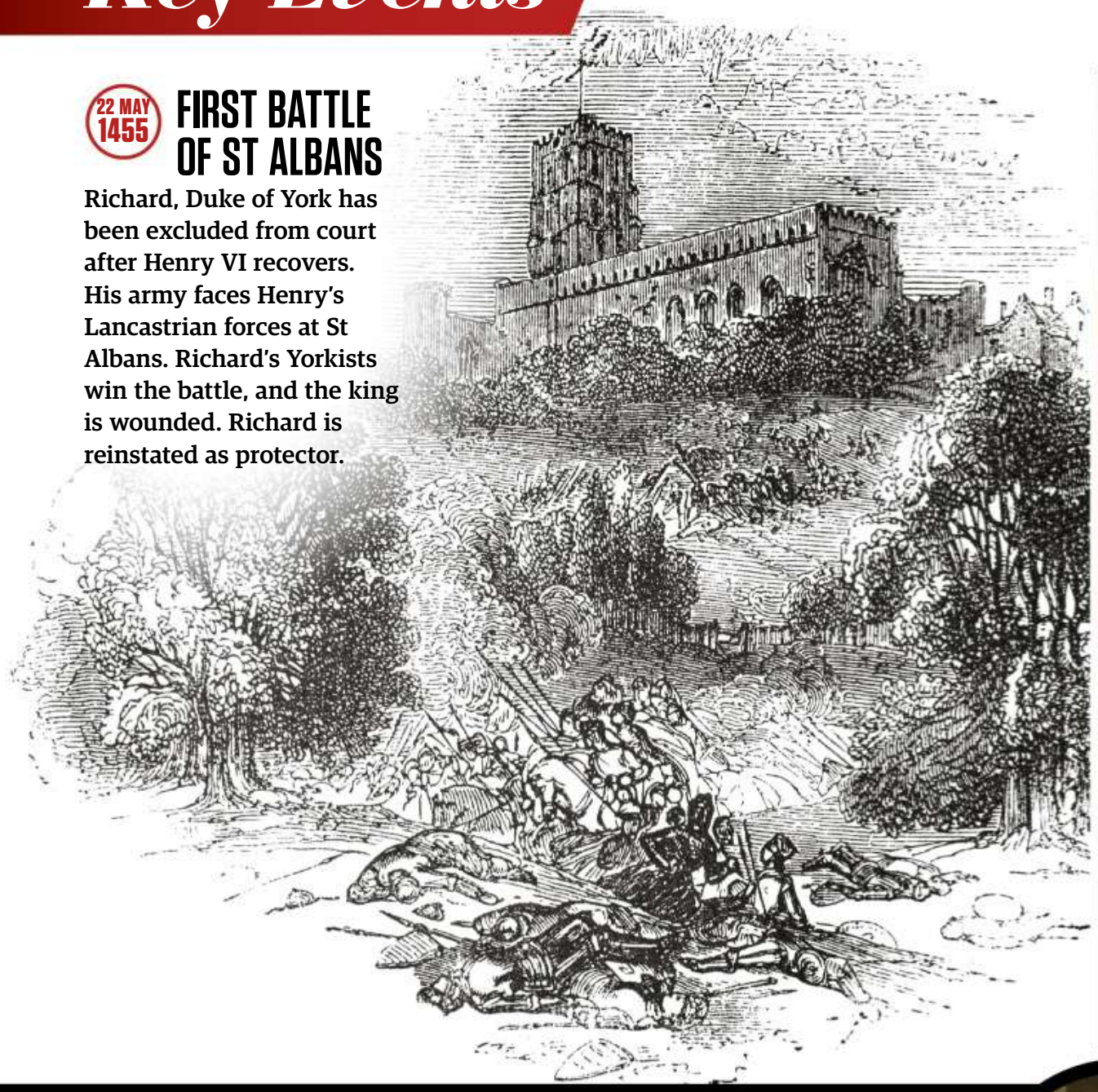
BEHIND THE CIVIL WARS

Main image source: © Getty Images

Written by Callum McKelvie, Emily Staniforth

Key Events



22 MAY 1455 FIRST BATTLE OF ST ALBANS

Richard, Duke of York has been excluded from court after Henry VI recovers. His army faces Henry's Lancastrian forces at St Albans. Richard's Yorkists win the battle, and the king is wounded. Richard is reinstated as protector.

28 JUN 1461 EDWARD IV'S CORONATION

After victory at Towton, Henry VI is deposed as king. Although Edward had been unofficially proclaimed king by the Yorkists, he is officially crowned at Westminster Abbey in June, becoming King Edward IV. He marries Elizabeth Woodville in 1464.

RICHARD BECOMES PROTECTOR 1453

King Henry VI suffers some form of mental breakdown. Richard, Duke of York is appointed as protector of the realm while the king is ill.

22 MAY 1455

RICHARD FLEES TO IRELAND 1459

After a Yorkist victory at Blore Heath, Richard is ousted following the Lancastrian win at the Battle of Ludford Bridge in October. He flees to Ireland.

10 JUL 1460

RICHARD RETURNS TO ENGLAND Oct 1460

The Yorkists agree that Henry can rule until his death, then Richard will become king. Queen Margaret decides to fight for her son's right to inherit.

BATTLE OF WAKEFIELD 30 Dec 1460

Queen Margaret's army defeats the Yorkist forces at Sandal Castle. Richard, Duke of York is killed, as is his son, the Earl of Rutland.

29 MAR 1461

SECOND BATTLE OF ST ALBANS 17 Feb 1461

Queen Margaret's forces advance south after their success at Wakefield. They beat the Yorkist forces led by Warwick and King Henry is rescued.

28 JUN 1461

HENRY VI IMPRISONED 1465

After returning to England in 1464, Henry VI is captured by the Yorkists in Lancashire and imprisoned in the Tower of London.

10 JUL 1460 BATTLE OF NORTHAMPTON

Under the leadership of the Earl of Warwick, the Yorkist forces face the Lancastrians at Delapré Abbey, Northampton. In a very short battle, the Yorkists capture King Henry and kill members of the Lancastrian nobility. Queen Margaret flees to France.

29 MAR 1461 BATTLE OF TOWTON

Richard of York's eldest son, Edward, leads the Yorkist forces into the biggest battle of the Wars of the Roses, defeating the Lancastrians. King Henry, Queen Margaret and their son flee to France, leaving the Yorkists free to take the throne.

Approximately 60,000 men fought at Towton. It was one of the bloodiest battles ever seen in England.

1483 THE PRINCES IN THE TOWER

The Princes in the Tower were probably murdered on the orders of Richard III.

In June, Edward IV's brother, Richard, who is now protector for his nephew, has Edward V and his brother declared illegitimate. Richard takes the throne as King Richard III and the young boys disappear from the Tower of London during the summer.

BATTLE OF BARNET
14 APRIL 1471

Edward returns to England and meets Warwicks' Lancastrian army at Barnet, near London. The Yorkists are victorious and Warwick is killed in battle.

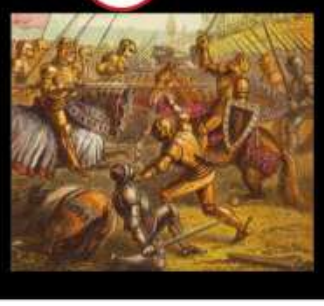
HENRY VI IS KILLED
21 MAY 1471

After being recaptured, Henry VI is murdered in the Tower of London. The new Lancastrian heir, Henry Tudor, flees to France.

HENRY TUDOR RETURNS TO ENGLAND
7 AUG 1485

Henry Tudor, the Lancastrian heir, lands at Mill Bay in Wales. He aims to take back the throne from the Yorkist Richard III.

OCT 1470 — 1483 — 22 AUG 1485

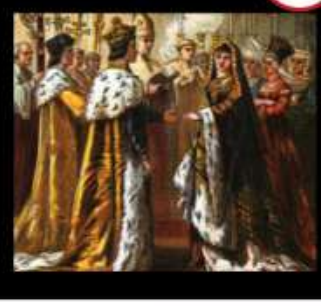


BATTLE OF TEWKESBURY
4 MAY 1471

The Lancastrians, led by Queen Margaret and her son, Edward, Prince of Wales, are defeated again. The Prince of Wales is killed and Queen Margaret flees.

EDWARD IV DIES
9 APRIL 1483

After 12 years of relatively peaceful rule, Edward IV dies at the age of 40. He is succeeded by his 12-year-old son, King Edward V.



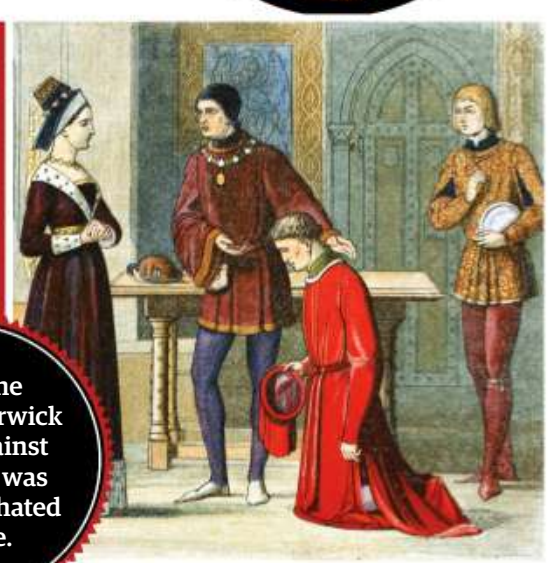
HENRY VII UNITES LANCASTER AND YORK
18 JAN 1486

Henry VII marries Elizabeth of York, the daughter of Edward IV. His new Tudor emblem is made up of the white and red rose.

OCT 1470 READEPTION OF HENRY VI

Henry VI is restored to the throne after an uprising causes Edward IV to flee England. The movement is led by Warwick, who allies with Queen Margaret and the Lancastrians after the breakdown of his relationship with the Yorkist king.

One of the reasons Warwick turned against Edward IV was because he hated his wife.



22 AUG 1485 BATTLE OF BOSWORTH FIELD

Henry Tudor's forces meet Richard III and his army at Bosworth Field. At the last battle of the Wars of the Roses, the Lancastrians defeat the Yorkists. Richard III is killed in the fight and Henry is proclaimed king.

All images: © Alamy

LUDLOW CASTLE

Shropshire, England
1459

During the Wars of the Roses, Ludlow Castle served as the headquarters of the Yorkists and was the property of Richard, Duke of York. Yorkist troops were based here and at the town of Ludlow, where the Battle of Ludford Bridge took place. First built around 1085-95 by Roger de Lacy, with major extensions taking place in the late 12th and early 13th centuries, Richard inherited Ludlow in 1425. However, a few decades later in 1459, as the war began to escalate, his wife and children were moved from Fotheringhay Castle in Northamptonshire to Ludlow for their protection. Of his many residences, the castle at Ludlow was said to be the Duke's favourite.

In October 1459, the forces of the Yorkists sought to regroup. Although it is not known where they originally intended this to take place (possibly at the Earl of Warwick's castle) they eventually settled on Ludlow in order to avoid confrontations with the Lancastrians before they had mustered their full forces. By nightfall on 12 October, they were in a defensive position at Ludlow Bridge. However, sensing defeat and with the fears of taking up arms against the king ever present, the lords quietly fled during the night. With their troops left without any leaders, when the Lancastrian army advanced the next morning there was very little fighting to speak of. Richard Duke of York made his way to Ireland but would return to England before the end of 1460, when the wars would begin anew.

Richard Duke of York abandoned not only the town of Ludlow, but his home the castle and with it his wife, Cecily and two children. Here we have attempted to recreate the castle as it would have looked at the time, based on the sources we have available, plus a few later additions of note.

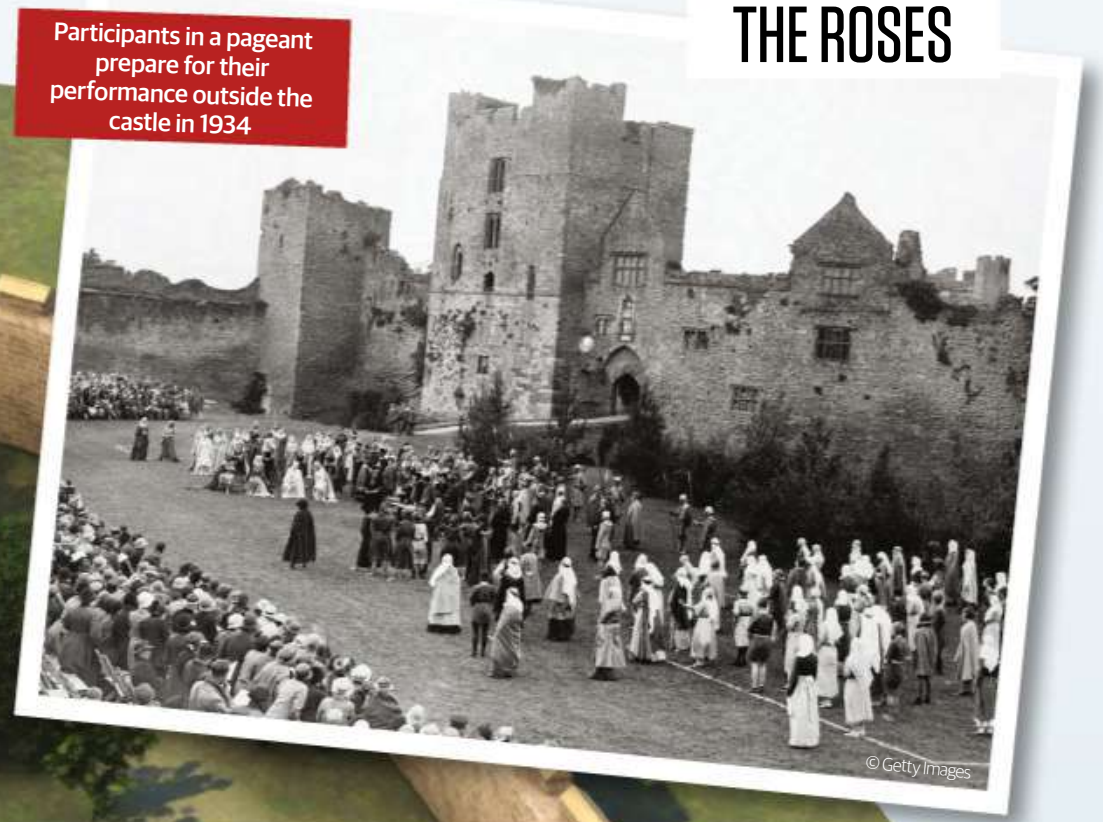
INNER BAILEY
Protected by a curtain wall nearly two metres thick, the inner bailey is as far as the original Norman castle extended. Access to it was through the Great Tower. During the Edwardian period the buildings in this part of the castle underwent extensive renovation.

GREAT TOWER
Following damage wrought upon the castle, most likely a result of the raid by the Lancastrian forces following the battle of Ludford Bridge in 1459, a major remodelling of the Great Tower took place. Repairs went on between 1464-6 and likely further restoration took place after this (at this stage the castle was the primary residence of the king's two sons) though no records remain.

TOWN WALLS
Beginning in 1233, the defences were extended to incorporate the entire town of Ludlow in order to protect them from Welsh attack. It would not be until the 14th century that the entire circuit would be completed. Ironically, later when the Council of the Marches was founded it was based in Ludlow Castle, making it the administrative capital of Wales.

TUDOR LODGINGS

Henry VII granted Ludlow Castle to his son Prince Arthur who was in residence when he died in 1503. His council remained, however, and between 1560-1586 the president of the council, Sir Henry Sidney, constructed these lodgings for various officials of the state. The council would be disbanded in 1641, though it would remerge a few decades later.



Participants in a pageant prepare for their performance outside the castle in 1934

© Getty Images

ST MARY'S CHAPEL

Although not directly connected to the Wars of the Roses, St Mary's chapel is one of the more interesting aspects of Ludlow Castle. Located within the inner bailey, the chapel was constructed during the 12th century and remains an impressive Norman-era structure. Round chapels were very rare and this is one of the few surviving examples of a circular nave.

ENTRANCE GATE

The entrance gate would have allowed access from the town of Ludlow. The victory of Richard Neville, Earl of Salisbury, at the Battle of Blore Heath on 23 September 1459 only served to enrage a vastly superior Royalist force and led to vengeance being wrought upon the town. When they entered the town they looted it, the lords having left their supporters in the night. Some accounts state Cecily faced down the Lancastrians in the Market Cross, though it is most likely she was in the castle.

ORIGINS OF LUDLOW

Ludlow was one of the first stone castles to be built in England and was constructed by Roger de Lacey, a supporter of Norman the Conqueror. The architecture of the curtain wall of the inner bailey (along with the flanking towers and parts of the gatehouse) are most likely the sections dating from the 11th century. However, the earliest sections that remain are in fact most likely constructed by De Lacey's sons.

CHAPEL OF ST PETER

Located in the outer bailey, this was the only part of the castle to have been built by Roger Mortimer, following his escape from the Tower of London in 1323. The Chapel of St Peter was supposedly built by Mortimer in order to commemorate this event. A little over a century later the Mortimer inheritance, including the castle, would be passed to Richard, Duke of York.

OUTER BAILEY

Constructed during the 12th century, this was a large wall that created an outer enclosure and helped strengthen the castle defences. Doubtless this would have helped the castle's appeal as a stronghold during the war, with any invaders having to gain access to first the outer and then inner walls. In the 13th century a postern gate had also been added, further strengthening the bailey's defences.

Illustration by: Adrian Mann

LANCASTRIAN SOLDIER

England 1455-87

HANDGONNE

This two-man weapon was a very early form of firearm. One man would be tasked with aiming the device while the other would be charged with igniting it. The handgonne was a short tube on a stick and usually ignited with a piece of hot coal or slow match.

HELMET

A type of helmet popular during this period was the sallet. The back of the helmet was curved and swept downwards to protect the back of the neck. The sallet itself would have been worn over a padded cap, with a metal plate known as a bevor worn below to further protect the neck.

BREASTPLATE

The main body armour for a warrior during the Wars of the Roses came in three sections. The first two were a breastplate for the upper and lower parts of the chest. The third section was a metal skirt that would also be worn to protect the lower parts of the soldier's body.

SWORD

Swords during this period were usually quite light and would be designed for cutting or thrusting. They would usually be just under one metre long, with others intended to be wielded using both hands measuring slightly longer. The sword would be kept in a scabbard on the belt.

RONDEL DAGGER

Usually worn on the hip belt on the opposite side to the scabbard, the rondel dagger was used in close-quarter combat - perhaps to pry open an enemy's visor before dispatching him with a swift cut across the throat. The blade was slender and could be as long as 40cm in order to stab deep into the body.

PRICEY PROTECTION

A full set of armour would have been extremely expensive and the figure here would most likely have been a noble or a lord as opposed to a more general foot soldier. However, most warriors would have had some form of armour, perhaps sections of older or lower-quality pieces.

SABATONS AND GREAVES

The sabatons were a form of armour-plate shoe, worn to protect the feet during combat. These would then be attached to the lower leg coverings, known as greaves. These came in two halves with a hinge on the side and would be secured to the wearer through a system of buckles and straps.

Illustration by Kevin McGivern

Historical Treasures

THE MIDDLEHAM JEWEL

This pendant was unearthed in 1985 near Middleham Castle England, late 15th century

Middleham Castle is believed to have been first built in 1086. Standing in the town of Middleham in North Yorkshire, it has been home to many members of the English nobility, but its most famous resident was Richard III. Entering the household of the Earl of Warwick at the age of 13, Richard, who was then the Duke of Gloucester, eventually inherited the castle after Warwick was killed at the Battle of Barnet in 1471.

Richard's subsequent marriage to Warwick's daughter, Anne Neville, and his position as the president of the Council of the North, secured his position and authority at Middleham. His only son, Edward (1474-78), was born and died at the castle, and even when Richard became king he continued to spend time at Middleham.

Now in ruins, not much of Richard's home is left standing. But a remarkable discovery near the site of Middleham Castle gives us an indication of what was important to its residents when Richard owned it. In 1985, a 15th-century diamond-shaped gold pendant was uncovered by a metal detectorist. The pendant was clearly owned by someone of noble status, as it is an expensive and ornate item. It has been suggested that it may have belonged to Richard III's wife Anne, or alternatively his mother Cecily Neville or his mother-in-law Anne Beauchamp. Whoever owned it, they most likely lost the jewel at some point, which is how it ended up buried for centuries.

The pendant was likely to have been worn in an attempt to ward off the dangers of childbirth. It features a depiction of the Crucifixion on the front and the Nativity on the back, and is the only known example of the kind of jewels women from the 15th century were often shown wearing in paintings and engravings. Medieval magical aspects are also present, with the name of a charm that was thought to guard against epilepsy – 'Ananizapta' – included in the pendant's inscriptions. It's now on display at the Yorkshire Museum in York, and an exact replica of it is housed at Middleham.

RELIQUARY

When it was discovered, the pendant was opened and a secret compartment was found. Inside were small pieces of silk, and soil. It is likely that a religious relic was once placed inside, although what that might have been is unknown.

SAPPHIRE

The blue sapphire jewel could represent the Virgin Mary, but may also have been thought to hold magical properties. Sapphires were believed to enhance prayers and cure maladies like ulcers, headaches, stammers and poor eyesight.

INSCRIPTIONS

Written around the edge of the pendant is an extract from the Latin Mass, which reads: "Behold the Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world... Have mercy upon us." A charm against epilepsy is also inscribed.

PROTECTION AT BIRTH

The Lamb of God is heavily featured, as is a Nativity scene, suggesting the pendant was believed to protect women in childbirth. Of the 15 saints around the Nativity, three have been identified as the patron saints of pregnancy and labour, girls, and the dying.

© York Museums Trust (Yorkshire Museum). YORYM: 1991.43

RULING ROSES OF ENGLAND

Their royal ambitions during the Wars of the Roses led to decades of slaughter and political turmoil in England

Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick
English, 1428-71

Warwick was an ambitious man who allied with Richard, Duke of York, in his fight for the throne. He continued to fight for the Yorkists after Richard's death at Wakefield, and was instrumental in Edward IV's rise to power. He exerted considerable influence over Edward early in his reign, but when the king started becoming more independent and chose to marry Elizabeth Woodville, Warwick switched sides. He married his daughter, Anne, to the Lancastrian Prince of Wales and reinstated Henry VI as king of England in 1470. He was eventually killed at the Battle of Barnet.

RICHARD, DUKE OF YORK
ENGLISH, 1411-60

A prominent nobleman, York was a descendant of Edward III. He was appointed protector of the realm during Henry VI's illness of 1453, but when the king recovered York was cast aside. Aided by the Earls of Salisbury and Warwick, they gathered an army to face the king's forces at St Albans. His desire for the throne began the civil wars that would continue long after his death at the Battle of Wakefield.

EDWARD, PRINCE OF WALES
ENGLISH, 1453-71

Born just after his father's sudden period of mental illness, Prince Edward was the only child of Henry VI and Margaret of Anjou. A child for much of the early conflict, Edward was the driving force for Margaret to continue the fight for the throne. Edward married Anne Neville as part of the alliance between his mother and Warwick but was killed shortly after at the Battle of Tewkesbury at the age of 18.

Edward IV
English, 1442-83

The eldest son of Richard, Duke of York, Edward picked up the Yorkist baton after the death of his father. Defeating the Lancastrians at the Battle of Towton, Edward was crowned king in 1461 and reigned for nine years. In that time, he married Elizabeth Woodville, the daughter of a minor noble and widow of a Lancastrian knight. That union, along with his growing independence at court, created friction with Warwick and Edward was deposed for a short period between 1471 and 1472. He later reclaimed the throne and ruled successfully until he died of natural causes aged 40.

In 2012, a skeleton found underneath a car park in Leicester was identified as Richard III. He was reburied in Leicester Cathedral in 2015.

Richard III
English, 1452-85

The fourth son of Richard of York, Richard was a child when the Wars of the Roses began and so had very little input in the early conflict. When Edward IV became king, he was made Duke of Gloucester and was placed in Warwick's household. He fought alongside his brother, the king, at Barnet and Tewkesbury, and may have helped to murder Henry VI. He married Anne Neville, the widow of the Prince of Wales, and when Edward died was made protector for the new king, Edward V. He usurped the throne, becoming king for two years, before he was killed at the Battle of Bosworth Field.

Princes in the Tower
English, 1470/1473-83

Edward V and his brother, Richard of Shrewsbury, were the young sons of Edward IV. After their father's death, the 13-year-old Edward became king. Their uncle, Richard, was appointed protector but had the boys declared illegitimate, giving him the opportunity to take the throne. The children were imprisoned in the Tower of London and were never seen again. What happened to them remains a mystery, but they were probably killed on Richard III's orders.

Two skeletons were discovered buried in the Tower of London in 1674. They were believed to be the bodies of the young princes.

Queen Margaret of Anjou
French, 1430-82

Margaret was born in France to René, Duke of Anjou and Isabella, Duchess of Lorraine. Her marriage to Henry VI was arranged as part of the treaty between England and France that ended the Hundred Years' War. Margaret was instrumental in the Lancastrian struggle to reclaim the throne and at various times raised armies to fight in battle. She was determined to secure her son's future and was ruthless in her efforts. After the death of her son at Tewkesbury, Margaret was captured and later imprisoned in the Tower of London. She was eventually released in 1475 and returned to France.

After the Battle of Wakefield, Margaret had the heads of Richard, Duke of York, and his son, the Earl of Rutland, impaled on spikes and displayed.

HENRY VII
WELSH, 1457 – 1509

Born in Pembrokeshire to Edmund Tudor and Margaret Beaufort, Henry's claim to the throne of England was insignificant at his birth. However, when Henry VI's son was killed, Henry became heir to the throne as the only male descendant of the House of Lancaster. He fled to France with his uncle, returning in 1485 to fight Richard III for the crown. Victory at Battle of Bosworth Field and his marriage to Elizabeth of York brought peace to England.

ELIZABETH OF YORK
ENGLISH, 1466 – 1503

The eldest daughter of Edward IV, Elizabeth of York helped put an end to the Wars of the Roses. After her brothers were declared illegitimate and subsequently disappeared, Elizabeth was the heir to the English throne. Richard III contemplated marrying his niece to secure his throne, but after Bosworth she was married to Henry VII and the houses of York and Lancaster were united. She went on to become the mother of Henry VIII.

Henry VI
English, 1421-71

Henry VI inherited the English throne from his father, Henry V, in 1422. Henry was nine months old when he became king of England, and a regency council governed the realm until he was considered old enough to rule. He married Margaret of Anjou in 1445 and together they had one son, Edward. Henry became ill in 1453, with some historians believing he suffered from catatonic schizophrenia. His mental breakdown meant Richard of York was made protector of the realm. Henry was captured on multiple occasions during the Wars and was eventually killed, probably on the orders of Edward IV.

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Q&A

EXPLAINING THE WARS OF THE ROSES

Professor Michael Hicks discusses some of the key moments and figures in the civil wars

Why did civil war break out in England in 1455?

This was an era when governments were very weak. Things went very badly wrong in the late 1440s – there was an appalling economic depression and there was complete defeat in France. This explains why there was a whole series of attempts to coerce the government and force it to change course. After the first one or two, it was Richard, Duke of York, who took this line.

I don't really see 1455 as being the beginning of the Wars of the Roses because York had tried to seize control several times before. He was trying to get rid of Henry VI's advisors but he wasn't out to actually depose Henry VI. So it's not York versus Lancaster yet. When it becomes York versus Lancaster, then you're into a no holds barred situation. Richard put his claim to the throne forward in 1460 and raised the stakes – he was determined to depose Henry if he could.

How significant a role did the Earl of Warwick play?

He was a very young man in the early 1450s and, in a subordinate role, at the Battle of St Albans, he broke through and killed the king's various advisors. Warwick then played a more significant role from 1459 to 1461. Thereafter, because York was dead and Edward IV was a young man who was not terribly interested in governing, he became the chief person running England in the early 1460s. When Edward IV asserted himself when he was about 26, Warwick was not at all happy. He tried to take control of the government, first of all peacefully, and then by a series of coups d'etat which became progressively more aggressive. Edward IV's government was weak and Warwick knew how to present his message to a popular audience. In 1470, Edward fled abroad and Henry VI was swept back into power. But there were divisions. The Lancastrians didn't particularly like Warwick and Warwick didn't particularly like them, so Henry VI's new regime was divided and Edward IV was able to defeat it.

Why didn't the Yorkists kill Henry VI earlier in the Wars of the Roses?

Henry VI was captured on several occasions, but the earlier occasions were when Henry was accepted as king by all parties and killing him was something that would have been unacceptable to everybody. From 1465 killing him was not to the Yorkists advantage because they would have exchanged Henry as king, who was in their custody and powerless, for his son – the heir – who was out of their control and a more enduring threat.

Once Margaret was in custody in 1471 and Edward, the Prince of Wales, was killed at the Battle of Tewkesbury [on 4 May] there was no longer any advantage in keeping Henry alive. I think there's no doubt that the Yorkists did dispatch him. It was also a problem that a lot of people thought Henry VI was the rightful king, but they were not going to fight about it anymore.

Michael Hicks is Emeritus Professor in Medieval History at the University of Winchester. He specialises in the political and religious history of late medieval England and has written books on the Wars of the Roses, Edward IV, Edward V, Richard III and the Earl of Warwick.

RIGHT Tewkesbury Abbey, where Lancastrian soldiers sought sanctuary after the battle in 1471

Photo courtesy of: Michael Hicks

How did Edward IV secure his throne for his second reign?

Edward IV had more or less got rid of his enemies at the battles of Barnet and Tewkesbury. That doesn't mean that there wasn't still a great deal of hostility towards him, but there was nobody left really to fight against him and he made a pretty determined effort to become stronger. As the whole reign went on the economic crisis was less dire, and he did invade France. He was much stronger towards the end of his second reign and, of course, he fathered heirs.

What do you think happened to the Princes in the Tower?

I think there's not much doubt – Richard was responsible and I would say that he was justified. However dubious his claim to the throne, he came to really believe in it and thought that people who opposed him were traitors. If you believe you are rightly king, then you can't leave spare kings hanging around! The princes may have been a latent threat but as they got older they would become more of a threat. This isn't something that we, today, like very much but I think it was entirely logical that he should get rid of the princes as soon as he became king. What Richard failed to realise is that somebody else would be found; that Henry Tudor would be resurrected from obscurity and become the figurehead of rebellions by all those people who didn't want Richard.

Did the Wars of the Roses end in 1485 at the Battle of Bosworth?

There were rebellions in 1486, there was a full-scale invasion and a battle at Stoke in 1487, the Perkin Warbeck business went on from 1491 to 1497, and the Earl of Suffolk was engaged in conspiracy in 1500 and was executed in 1513. When do these cease to be effective threats? When can you really say the Wars of the Roses have finished? It's very difficult to be precise. In 1506 when Henry VII was very ill there was a discussion at Calais where people said: "If the king dies what happens next?" They were talking about which of the Yorkists would succeed, and nobody mentioned Henry VIII. Henry VIII was just old enough to rule in 1509 when Henry VII died, and that made a key difference. I think the Wars of the Roses go on a good deal longer. They were a constant preoccupation for Henry VII so they certainly didn't end after 1485. Henry Tudor may have been an effective threat to Richard III but he had little else to be said in his favour. It took a long time before he could call himself safe on his throne.

Dacre's Cross in Yorkshire marks the site of the Battle of Towton (1461)

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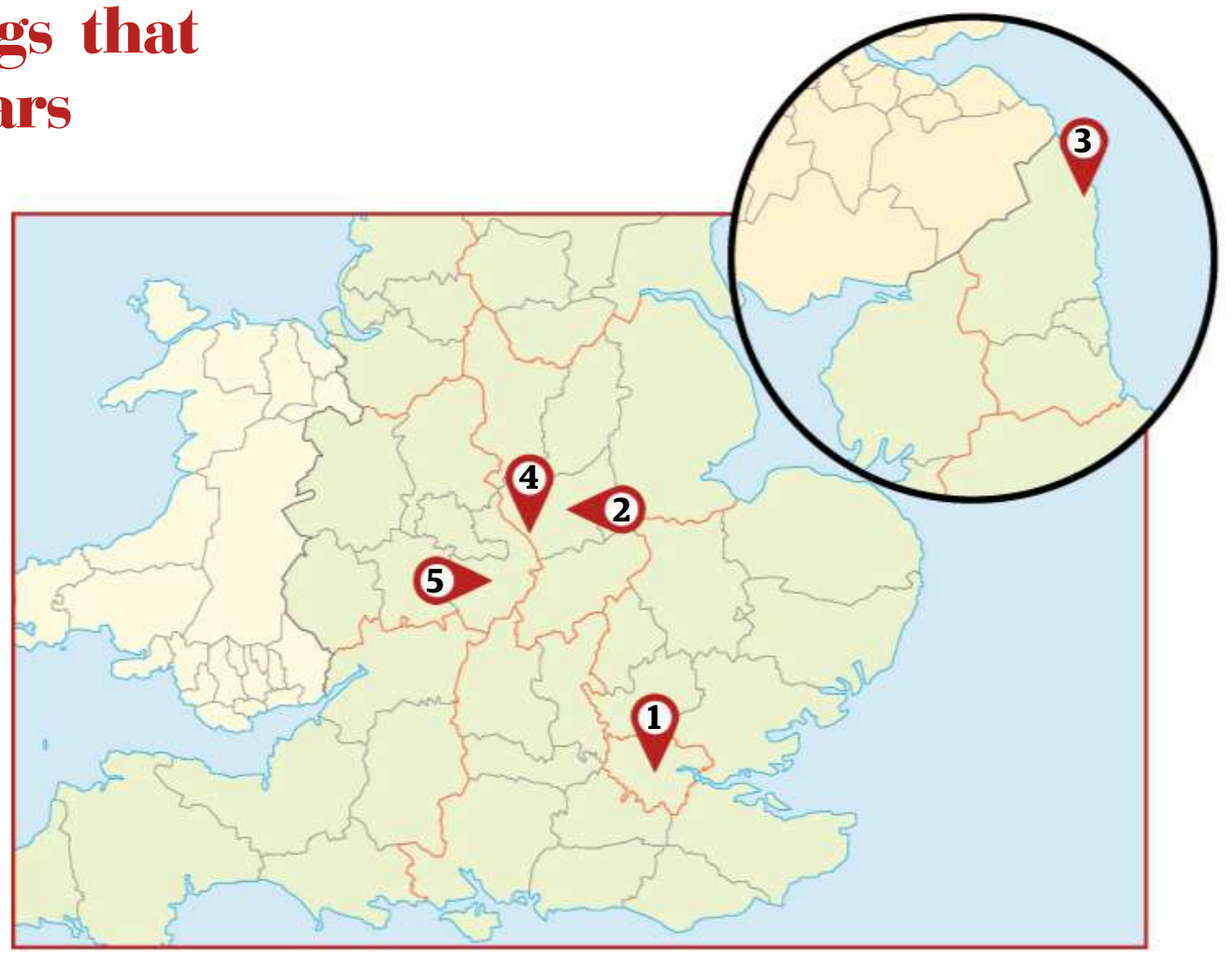
Places to Explore

HERITAGE SITES AROUND ENGLAND

Famous places and buildings that tell the story of the civil wars



1 THE TOWER OF LONDON
LONDON

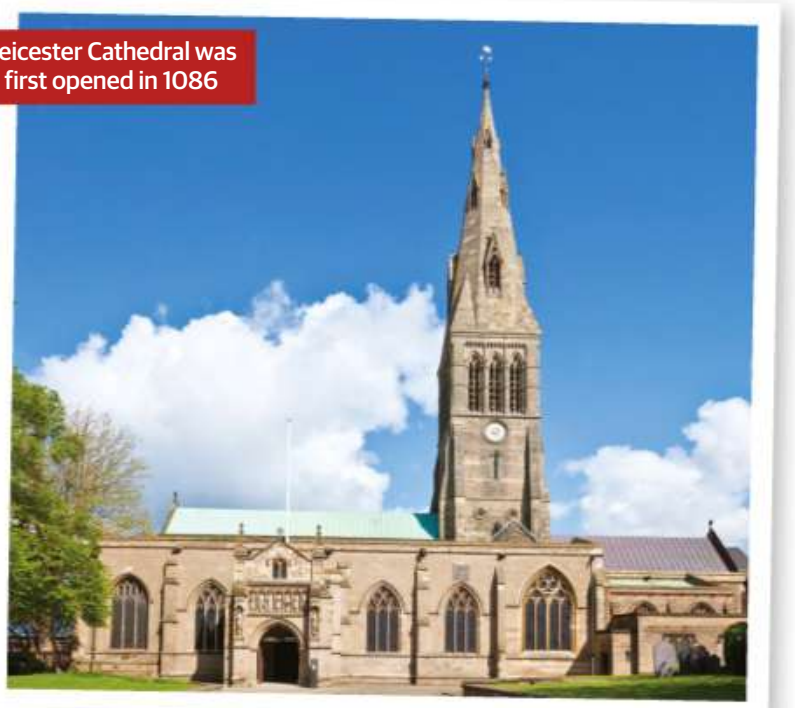
The Tower of London is one of the most famous landmarks in the English capital. Its primary importance in the Wars of the Roses was that it was the last known location of Edward V and Prince Richard in 1483, whose disappearance saw Richard III secure the throne. Exactly what happened to the sons of Edward IV and Elizabeth Woodville remains a mystery, with many suspicious of Richard's role. The Tower continued to be an important prison in the years that followed, holding many famous names such as Anne Boleyn, Elizabeth I, Sir Walter Raleigh and Guy Fawkes, to name just a few.

Prior to the pandemic, the Tower of London was getting nearly 3 million visitors a year. From June to September 2022, to mark the Platinum Jubilee celebrations, the moat of the Tower will be displaying a 'superbloom' exhibit of flowers, one of many events taking place across the city over the course of the year.

The Tower is open all week from 9am to 5:30pm Tuesday to Saturday and from 10am Mondays and Sundays.

The Tower remains an imposing building, even amid the skyscrapers of modern London

2 LEICESTER CATHEDRAL
LEICESTER



Leicester Cathedral was first opened in 1086

You may recall that in 2012 the body of Richard III was found under a car park in Leicester having been lost for over 500 years. His body now resides in Leicester Cathedral, where you can learn all about the final days of the king, the Battle of Bosworth Field where he died and how it was that his remains became lost in the first place. Setting aside the story of Richard's life, the tale of the events following his death is really something to behold. The King Richard III Visitor Centre, which sits next to the cathedral, offers a thorough breakdown of the hunt for his remains, the way that DNA was used to confirm the identity of the battle-scarred skeleton that was found and much more.

As an appendix to the incredible story of the Wars of the Roses, the unearthing of Richard III and his reburial in the Cathedral is a fascinating addition to the tale and one well worth learning about.

The cathedral is currently closed for renovations until 2023. Visit leicestercathedral.org for details.

The castle is still a residence today, owned by the Armstrong family

3 BAMBURGH CASTLE
BAMBURGH, NORTHUMBERLAND

Dominating the Northumberland coastline for over 1,400 years, Bamburgh Castle is a fortress that has seen more than its fair share of violence. It was originally built by the Anglo Saxons, beginning as a wooden stockade, and was gradually added to in the centuries that followed. It was attacked by Viking invaders in the 10th century, became a Norman stronghold in the 12th century, and was royal home for a succession of kings thereafter.

During the Wars of the Roses Bamburgh Castle was the home of Henry VI and was the target of cannon fire for the first time when Edward of York's forces laid siege to it. It was the first castle in England to be destroyed by gunfire as a result. At that time Henry had already fled to Scotland while his wife, Margaret of Anjou, had gone to France. The castle's defender, Sir Ralph Grey of Chillingham, could do nothing to hold off such firepower and is said to have been in one of the towers when it was hit and collapsed. He survived, only to be captured and executed.

The castle lay in ruin for decades until a restoration project was begun in the 18th century, finally completed in 1901.

The castle is open every day from 10am to 5pm. Visit bamburghcastle.com for details

4 BOSWORTH BATTLEFIELD
NUNEATON

The site of Henry Tudor's battle against Richard III, the Bosworth Battlefield is now a country park with a visitor centre that offers a series of trails taking you around the historic location. This is where Henry's rebel force took on the much larger army of the king and defeated them. Richard is said to have led a mounted charge on Henry, only to become surrounded and lose his horse in a marsh. Most accounts from the time agree that Richard fought to the last but was cut down, bringing his reign to an end and marking the start of the Tudor dynasty in England.

This is the site where in Shakespeare's play Richard proclaims: "My kingdom for a horse!"

The location of this battle had actually been lost for centuries, but was pinpointed from 1973, with new evidence gradually narrowing down its real site. From 2005 a project using topographic, documentary and archaeological field work managed to unearth evidence of cannonballs and other items to confirm the battle's location.

The park is open every day from 7am, with parking closing at 8pm in summer months.

5 WARWICK CASTLE
WARWICK

The town of Warwick was founded in 914 CE and surviving buildings and restorations have made it into a fantastic spot to experience English history. The castle is one of the most well-preserved in the country and was the home of the Earls of Warwick. Since 1978 it has been converted from a private residence into a tourist attraction.

During the Wars of the Roses, Warwick Castle was in the hands of Richard Neville, the 'Kingmaker' and Earl of Warwick, who had supported York. However, having fallen out with his cousin Edward IV, he imprisoned the king in Warwick Castle until he was forced to release him. It went to Edward's brother George and then to his son, Edward, who was later arrested by Henry VII as a potential threat to his claim on the throne and executed when he attempted to escape the Tower of London.

The castle hosts a Wars of the Roses Live event during the summer months, with showtimes throughout the day. The event features live-action stunts, tricks and jousting battles to give you a flavour of life in medieval England. In between there's a dramatised retelling of the battle between the houses of York and Lancaster. If you want to be even more immersed, you can stay overnight in the Knight's Village in themed lodges.

The castle opens at 10am, but closing times can vary depending on the day. Visit warwick-castle.com for details

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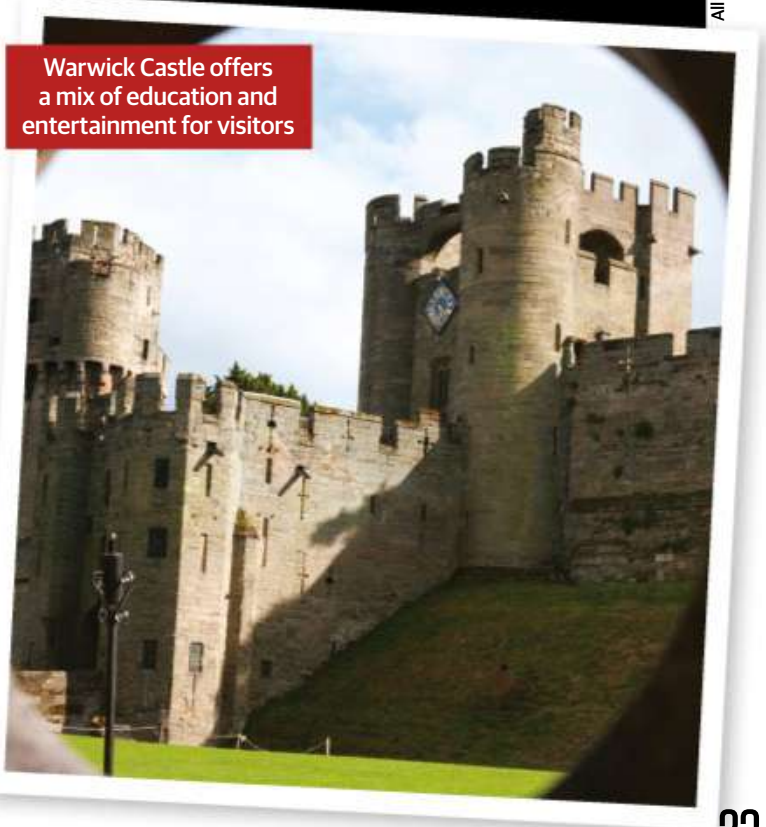

Warwick Castle offers a mix of education and entertainment for visitors

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RISE OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE

How the great sultans built a dynasty to challenge the powers of Europe

Written by Jem Duducu

Photo courtesy of: Greenwich Design

EXPERT BIO

JEM DUDUCU

Jem Duducu is the author of *The Sultans: The Rise and Fall of the Ottoman Rulers and Their World.*

Illustration by: Joe Cummings

The 1290s were a time of chaos in the Middle East, where there were two rival empires vying for power. To the south, with their capital in Cairo, were the Mamelukes, and to the north and east, the Mongol Empire. The decade saw the collapse of the Crusader states and the Byzantine Empire, which once again rose from the ashes of the Fourth Crusade, was a pale imitation of its glorious past.

What has any of this got to do with the Ottoman Empire? Enter Osman, a Seljuk Turk, the man who is seen as the founder of the empire. (His name is sometimes spelt Ottman or Othman, hence the term 'Ottoman'.) The Seljuks had arrived from the Asiatic steppes to the east but had been in Anatolia for generations. Had Osman tried to establish his powerbase 50 years earlier or later, the political landscape would likely have been quite stable, so any attempt at building his own independent realm would have been quickly extinguished. More than anything else Osman was the right man, in the right place, at the right time.

Nature abhors a vacuum and it's the same with power. Söğüt is a small town in western Anatolia; it wouldn't even be worth a footnote in history if it wasn't for the fact that it was here that Osman consolidated his power. Söğüt, then, was the first capital of the Ottoman Empire, but it's quite telling that in the first 150 (or so) years of the empire, there were four different capitals. As the empire grew and controlled ever larger and more impressive cities, the old capital was easily forgotten, and Söğüt was dropped as the capital as quickly as possible. Osman greatly expanded the lands under his control, almost exclusively to the detriment of the ever-weakening Byzantine Empire. He must have calculated that he wasn't yet powerful enough to challenge the larger powers to the east, so he nibbled away at the Byzantine hinterland – and there wasn't much the Byzantine rulers could do about it, although they did try. In 1302, the Byzantines sent a small army in an attempt to curb Osman's advances. The two sides met at the Battle of Bapheus, near the Byzantine city of Nicomedia. Osman's cavalry made short work of the smaller Byzantine force (bolstered by Alan mercenaries, who knew a lost cause when they saw one and didn't join in with the battle). Osman was very much a warrior in the mould of other great cavalry officers of the Middle Ages like Genghis Khan and, for the next 300 years, sultans would regularly be seen in battle; but as the empire matured and began to wane, so the sultans began to shirk their duties on the battlefield.

> "Osman was real but in some ways he's like King Arthur: a founder of an idea and a near mythical figure"

TOP-LEFT Osman I and his court

TOP-RIGHT Sultan Osman I, the founder of the Ottoman Empire

ABOVE Tomb of Osman I. Sultans prior to the conquest of Constantinople were buried in Bursa, an earlier capital of the empire

THE SIEGE OF CONSTANTINOPLE

Why it was one of the most important sieges in history

The Byzantine Empire was actually the remnants of the Eastern Roman Empire. After the fall of the Western Roman Empire in the late 5th century, the east flourished, even briefly recapturing Rome under the Emperor Justinian. The occupants of Constantinople started speaking Greek as their first language but considered themselves Roman with a direct line of cultural decent all the way back to Caesar Augustus. So when the city fell to the Ottoman ruler Mehmed II in 1453, a number of historians see this as the full stop in the centuries-long story of the Roman Empire.

Then there's its importance in Islam. Apart from the *Qur'an*, the other major religious text to Muslims is the *Hadith*, a revered and sacred collection of sayings that are attributed to the Prophet Muhammad. In one of them the Prophet is said to have stated that whoever captures Constantinople would be considered the greatest general in the world. Belief in the *Hadith* painted a Muslim target on Constantinople's walls. The city became an obsession for many Islamic leaders because the whole world, both Christian and Muslim, would remember the name of the man who conquered Constantinople. It turned out to be true.

Finally, there's the crucial factor of gunpowder technology. Gunpowder had first arrived in Europe with the Mongols in the 13th century, but it remained largely a novelty. What the Ottoman artillery at Constantinople proved is if the mix of gunpowder was right and the size of the cannonball was large enough, then the classic defence of high stone walls were no longer effective. As fortifications moved into the Renaissance era this was taken into account and entirely new forms of defence, such as the star fort, were created to try and mitigate the damage caused by cannon fire.

It was with Osman's successor that, on his day of coronation, the tradition of wearing Osman's sword, girded by his belt, began. This was the Ottoman equivalent of being anointed and crowned in the West and was a reminder to all of the 36 sultans who followed that their power and status came from this legendary warrior and that they were martial rulers.

Osman was definitely real, but in some ways he's like King Arthur in the West: a founder of an idea and a near mythical figure. During his lifetime he was so unimportant that we have absolutely no contemporary sources about him. We don't know what he looked like; we have no proclamations extant from his reign. This was the Ottoman Dark Ages.

While the early 1300s were largely obscure, a little over a century later the empire was in rude good health, and with it came the desire to revisit the founder and give Osman a legacy. As a consequence, gleaning the real Osman from all the myth-making becomes virtually impossible. Foundation myths tell something about the times they were created in, like Rome with Romulus and Remus. And so it is that we come to the legend of Osman's dream: Osman had an ally in a local religious leader called Sheikh Edebali. They were obviously close because Osman ended up marrying one of Edebali's daughters. According to the legend Osman went to Edebali for guidance and had a dream when he spent the night at the sheikh's house. The imagery varies but the key part is that Osman, allegedly, remembered that 'a tree then sprouted from his navel and its shade encompassed the world'. On top of this rivers began to flow and

Mehmed II entering Constantinople

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mountains formed. We are now, clearly, in metaphorical territory, which is suspiciously similar to the florid prose of a later Ottoman literary style that a 13th century cavalry bey wouldn't have used.

When Osman asked Edebali what all this meant, his response echoed the Biblical account of Joseph and his dreams, a story that would certainly have been known to Islamic scholars. Edebali was apparently delighted with Osman's dream, declaring that it meant that Osman would be the founder of an extraordinary dynasty that, like the canopy of the tree, would encompass many lands. It was also, allegedly, this revelation that sealed the marriage to Edebali's daughter. The story of the dream marks out Osman as a man with a great destiny. He was only a local warlord at the time, but the concept was clear: as his family moved from generation to generation and grew, so would his realm. The earliest reference to this dream is from around a century later and is clearly a case of descendants adding lustre to an obscure ancestor.

"Bayezid has the dubious honour of being the only sultan to have been captured in battle"

As Osman aged, his mind would naturally have turned to his succession. His eldest son, Alaeddin, would have been the logical choice as the new bey of the embryonic Ottoman Empire, but the actual successor was his second son, Orhan. Over the centuries, the scramble for the throne led to bloodshed among the feuding siblings and sometimes resulted in civil war, but this was one of the most harmonious transitions of power not only in Ottoman history, but in 14th century history in general.

Alaeddin recognised that Orhan was the natural born warrior, whereas he was more a man of learning who didn't fit the mould of the great warlord. He was, by all accounts, a pious man who was admired and respected by everyone. He personally paid for the construction of a mosque which, while small compared to the later great mosques of the sultans, is one of the earliest examples of Ottoman architecture still standing. So, while Orhan got on with conquering, Alaeddin became what is considered to be the first grand vizier of the Ottoman Empire. What does that mean in modern parlance? He was the sultan's chief advisor and oversaw the day-to-day administration of the empire. In particularly modern vernacular, he was Orhan's prime minister, but in many instances he was also a warrior and a pasha (general) who led campaigns.

BELOW-INSET A coin bearing the likeness of Mehmed II

BELOW Sultan Mehmed II shown commanding his naval forces

PIRATES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

The corsairs of the Barbary Coast inflicted centuries of misery

On behalf of the Ottomans, pirates in the Mediterranean regularly carted off whole Christian villages, and one Barbary pirate (a Dutch Muslim convert) enslaved the entire population of Baltimore in Ireland.

During the English Civil War (1642-51) these pirates captured and used the Isle of Lundy in the Bristol Channel as a base – technically a part of Britain was briefly part of the Ottoman Empire. Meanwhile the fishermen of Spain and the peasants of Italy must have been terrified when they saw the sails of an Ottoman raiding party appear on the horizon, and there are numerous Renaissance-era towns in coastal southern Europe that were abandoned not because of economics or a deadly disease, but because of the plague of piracy.

That's not to say everyone became a galley slave and faced an early death. Samson Rowlie, an Englishman, was captured in 1577 by Muslim pirates. He was taken to Algiers (an Ottoman territory), where he was castrated and forced to become a Muslim with the new name of Hassan Ağa (Ağa is a title of respect). All of this sounds dreadful, so you would expect that when he had the opportunity to return to England he would have jumped at the chance, but no. By the time the opportunity presented itself, he had become a pasha in control of the treasury in Algiers. He had made a new life for himself with more power and influence than he could ever have imagined.

The title of grand vizier of the Ottoman Empire was to last until 1908.

Osman and Orhan are not known as Osman I and Orhan I, but by the title ghazi. This is a specific Arabic/Islamic term that, by the 14th century, meant 'holy warrior' and was originally linked to anyone who had military experience but morphed into a title with a more religious connotation under the wars of the Prophet and the expansion of the original caliphate (the Islamic community). However, by the Middle Ages it was generally linked to any Muslim warrior who had shown prowess in battle. It was still a title of respect but had more of a religious implication than was usually justified by events. While Orhan was busy being both ruler and ghazi, Alaeddin was seeing to the affairs of government, and it was under his management that the conquered territories around Söğüt started to morph into a more coherent realm. His impact was huge, long lasting, sensible – and a little dull.

While Osman had minted coins (one of the few contemporary pieces of evidence that he existed), they were little more than local copies of other coinage in circulation at the time. Alaeddin went substantially further. The monetary system was simplified and standardised, which helped trade because any realm with stable, reliable and quality coinage had the upper hand in trade negotiations. In addition to the monetary system, Alaeddin overhauled the army by creating and funding a standing army of regular troops. Anatolian warlords tended to run a completely martial realm but, as the Ottoman lands expanded, that traditional system wasn't going to work. Many of the new subjects weren't born horse archers, and it was recognised that in order to make use of the manpower available, greater use of infantry and archers would have to be made and integrated into the army. While it was true that this army couldn't be as mobile and couldn't use the classic 'attack and feint' of the legendary horse archers of the era, it was larger and more flexible than before. The most famous warriors of the Ottoman Empire were the Janissaries and, while they were not formed until a generation later, it's worth noting that they were not cavalry but infantry, a marked departure from the traditional Turkic form of warfare.

In addition to revamping the monetary system and the army, Alaeddin introduced a third and perhaps most important reform in, of all things, clothing. This probably sounds odd, but right from the start of the empire there were a multitude of different ethnicities under the sultan's authority, and Alaeddin understood that

RIGHT A medieval European depiction of the siege of Constantinople in 1453

BELOW Gentile Bellini's portrait of Mehmed II from 1480. Bellini painted it while ambassador to the Ottoman court

BOTTOM The Grand Bazaar in Istanbul was founded by Mehmed II in the 1450s to reinvigorate Constantinople as a trading hub. Today it remains a popular tourist attraction

this was something to be encouraged and enhanced by the regulation of dress. Later western travellers to the empire would marvel at the kaleidoscope of colours and fashions worn by its peoples, the different attires identifying the wearer as a Jew, an Albanian, a Greek and so forth. This was not to single out any group for discrimination but to provide a visual reminder that it didn't matter who your god was or what language you spoke, everyone in the empire lived under the authority and protection of the sultan.

We now move a few generations on to the end of the 14th century and Bayezid Yildirim (the Lightning Bolt). Bayezid was every inch the warrior, indeed he became sultan when his father died at the Battle of Kosovo. He defeated several Christian armies in the west (even trying to besiege Constantinople) and Turkic groups in central Anatolia. He was like a Henry V and oversaw substantial expansion of the empire. Then in 1402 an even tougher warrior leader with an even bigger army came smashing in from the east. Emir Timur (known to history as Tamerlane) met Bayezid in 1402 at the Battle of Ankara. Bayezid had never been defeated in open battle before, but here he was crushed. The victory for Emir Timur was so emphatic that Bayezid has the dubious honour of being the only sultan to have been captured in battle. He died the next year in captivity.

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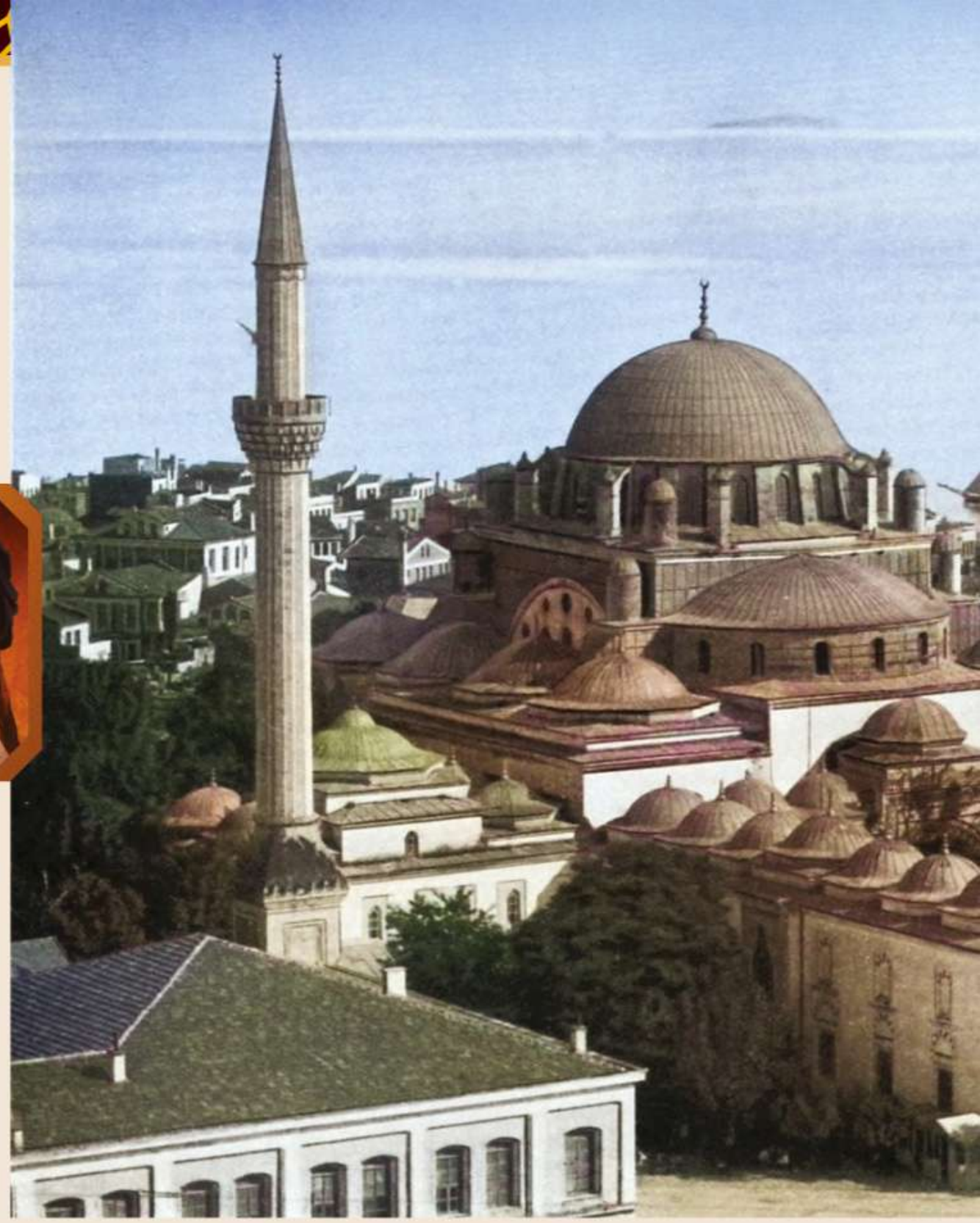
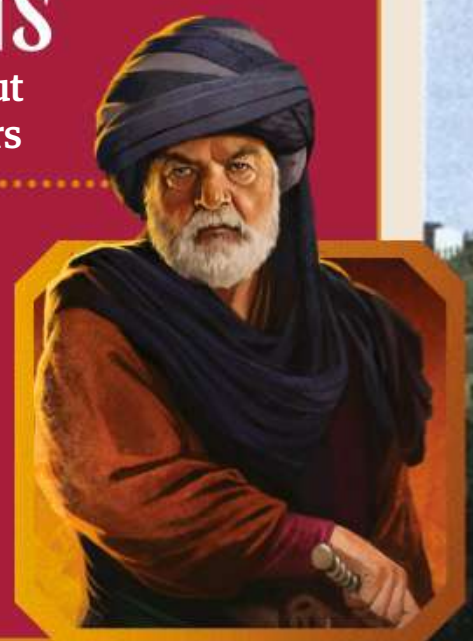


THE SULTANS

All you need to know about the first ten Ottoman rulers



Osman

Reign: c.1300-24

Osman was born around 1258 and was the founder of the Ottoman Empire. He began as a ruler of a principality of northwestern Anatolia around Sögüt. He gradually expanded his region by taking on the Byzantines.

Orhan

Reign: 1324-60

Born in 1288, Orhan was one of the sons of Osman and was named as his father's successor. His brother, Alaeddin, was given the title of vizier, which would become an ongoing role as administrator and advisor to the sultan.

Murad I

Reign: 1360-89

The reign of Murad saw some of the first large expansions of the Ottoman kingdom into the rest of Anatolia and into the Balkans. Early in his reign he took Adrianople from the Byzantines, renamed it Edirne and made it his capital.

Bayezid I

Reign: 1389 – 1402

Bayezid's reign was marked by further expansion into the Balkans, but also consolidation of the sultanate as the sole power of this growing empire. His defeat by Timur at the Battle of Ankara left the empire in chaos for some time.

Mehmed I

Reign: 1413-21

After the Ottoman kingdom had been divided following the defeat of Bayezid by Timur at the Battle of Ankara, it was Mehmed who brought the territories back under his control, staving off internal revolt and upheaval.

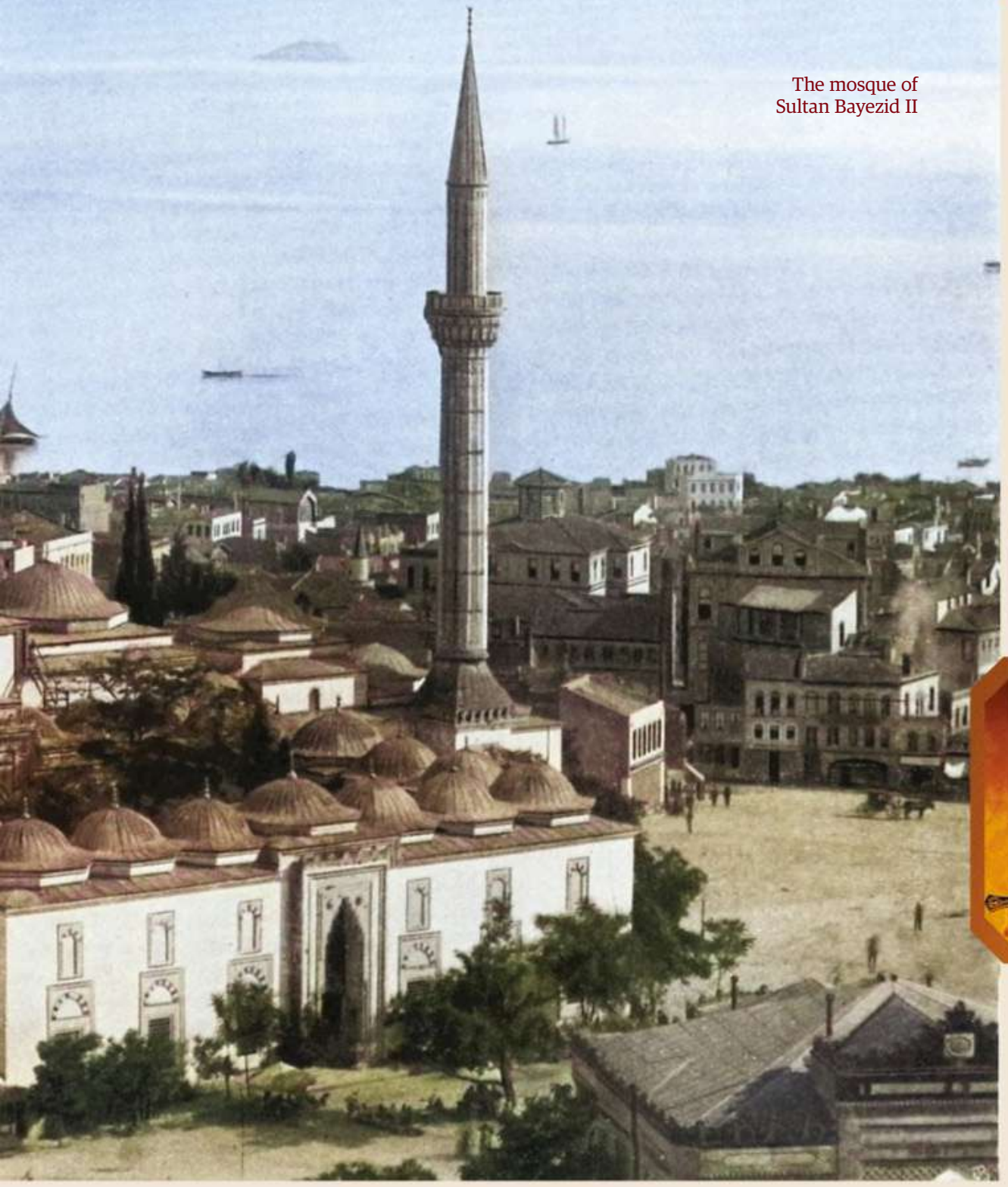
This was devastating for the empire as it now lurched into civil war as Bayezid's sons all vied for power. The princes were: Mehmed Çelebi, Isa Çelebi, Süleiman Çelebi, Musa Çelebi and, later, Mustafa Çelebi. The title çelebi has no satisfactory English translation but means 'wise', 'of noble birth', 'clever' and 'conscientious', all in one word.

The civil war nearly tore apart the small empire. The Byzantines, religious groups and Tamerlane all deliberately added to the chaos of the claimants. In the end Mehmed was the last man standing and he is often seen as the second founder of the empire. He brought much-needed stability after a decade of turmoil. So important was he that after his sudden death his courtiers paraded his body around propped up as if he was still alive (some say they even moved his arms with wires) to buy time to install his son Murad, 16, as the new sultan.

Within the first 18 months of his reign Murad II fought off two rebellions and besieged Constantinople – and he wasn't yet 18 years old. He was an energetic ruler who strangely decided to retire to give his chosen successor, Mehmed II, a chance. But when a new threat of invasion rose, from Hungary, Murad II came out of retirement and ruled until his death in 1451. The 20-year-old Mehmed II once again became sultan, and he would go down as one of the greatest in the empire's 600-year history.

Mehmed II Fatih (Conqueror) famously successfully besieged Constantinople in 1453 – the first example of gunpowder making a decisive difference in warfare. It should not be forgotten that to open up a new front of attack, in secrecy he got 80 of his warships to be hauled over a peninsula on greased planks so they could get round Constantinople's formidable coastal defences. It was an emphatic example of the sultan's ingenuity, self-belief and will-power. Constantinople then became the capital of the empire until its end in 1922.

Mehmed II's armies would push into the Balkans, defeating the legendary Vlad 'the Impaler'. Ottoman forces even landed in Italy, causing a panic as people thought Rome was about to fall. What saved the Eternal City was not a brave general or stout resistance but once again the sudden death of a sultan as Mehmed II (like his father) died of natural causes in his late 40s.



The mosque of Sultan Bayezid II

Mehmed II had been far more than just a warrior: he had introduced new laws and encouraged the repopulation of Constantinople, which in 1453 had shrunk to such a size that there was farmland inside its walls. Today the Grand Bazaar in Istanbul has 61 covered streets and contains some 4,000 shops. This sprawling, free-market maze was founded by Mehmed II shortly after capturing Constantinople.

Bayezid II's rule coincided with the fall of Islamic rule in Spain and the vicious inquisition to weed out any secret Jews/Muslims. This led to a mass movement to the one territory that would welcome both: the Ottoman Empire. For a time Galata Tower was temporarily turned into a mosque for the arriving Muslims, and the Jews were allowed to practise their faith in safety, provided they paid the cizye – the tax for non-Muslims. Yet this wasn't just philanthropy: the artisans of southern Spain were well-regarded and the new Spanish rulers had foolishly allowed many scholars and craftsmen to go to a foreign power. Bayezid II summarised the situation: "They say Ferdinand is a wise monarch. How could he be? He who impoverishes his country to enrich mine." Now all that knowledge and expertise resided under Ottoman control.

> **"Mehmed II ordered 80 warships to be hauled over a peninsula to get around Constantinople's defences"**

Once again the sudden death of a sultan led to civil war. His oldest son was Bayezid, but his favoured son was Cem. In the end Cem made two attempts to take the title of sultan, the second backed by Christian powers in an attempt to curtail the expansion of the empire. But he failed in both attempts and ended up touring Europe as part honoured guest, part curiosity and part bargaining chip.

Rise of the Ottoman Empire

Murad II

Reign: 1421-44, 1446-51

Having fought for his throne as the Byzantine Emperor Manuel II Palaeologus backed alternate claimants, Murad II continued the consolidation and recovery of the empire. He abdicated in 1444 but returned in 1446 due to growing external threats.

Mehmed II

Reign: 1444-46, 1451-81

Known as 'The Conqueror', Mehmed II captured Constantinople alongside further regions of Anatolia and the Balkans. He had an earlier brief reign as sultan while still a child, but his father Murad II stepped back in charge to resolve threats from outside the empire.

Bayezid II

Reign: 1481 – 1512

Known as 'The Just', Bayezid II became sultan despite the challenge of his brother and set about returning Muslim properties that had been under state control. Meanwhile his reign also saw the rise of the Safavids in the east of Anatolia.

Selim I

Reign: 1512-20

He extended the Ottoman Empire into Syria, Egypt, Palestine and the Hejaz (today in western Saudi Arabia). He battled his way to the throne amid civil unrest, but made the Ottomans the leaders of the Muslim world during his reign.

Süleiman I

Reign: 1520-66

As well as expanding the Ottoman Empire even further, Süleiman oversaw the Ottoman cultural renaissance with important laws, writing and art established under his reign. He also took the title of caliph, meaning the 'successor of the prophet Muhammad'.

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THE MAGNIFICENT MONARCH

Wolfson History Prize nominee, Marc David Baer, discusses the golden age of the Ottomans and how Süleiman contributed to this era

THE OTTOMANS
BY MARC DAVID BAER IS AVAILABLE NOW AND IS ONE OF SIX TITLES NOMINATED FOR THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY WOLFSON HISTORY PRIZE FOR 2022

Image courtesy of the Wolfson Foundation

Süleiman became known as 'The Magnificent', but how was he perceived when he first inherited the throne from his father?

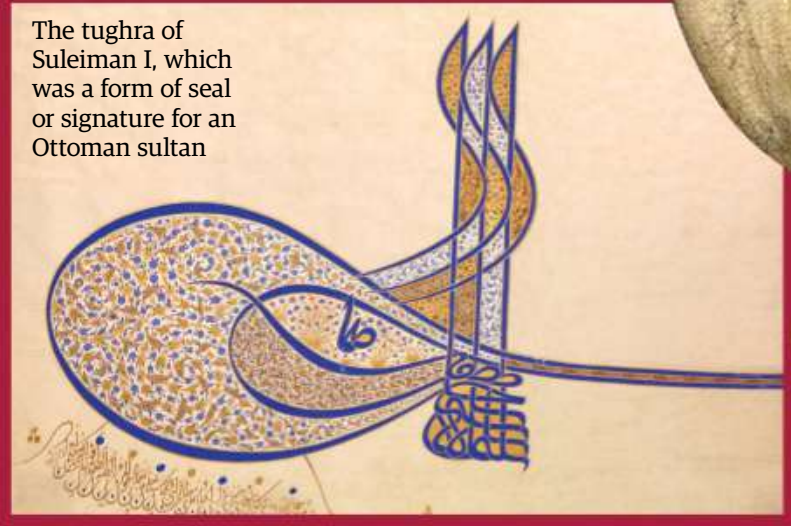
That's a great question because, of course, when history is written later we think about the past after someone has had their successes and failures, and when Süleiman took the throne he was young and he was untested. His father Selim I died suddenly, perhaps of plague, and so this young man came to power and he had no military experience, while the ministers of state were older, experienced men. They were used to the successes of Selim I who had conquered the Middle East. And then there's this young man, this unproven man, and a lot of these ministers didn't want to listen to him. Süleiman quickly had to prove himself. He became sultan in 1520 and soon after he launched the campaign for the island of Rhodes, which Selim had not been able to take and Mehmed the Conqueror had not been able to take, but Süleiman was able to conquer it. Then the military ministers were beginning to think that this is a capable young man and then he also conquered Belgrade. This was a stepping stone to Vienna and conquering the Habsburg Empire. He didn't succeed in that with the Siege of Vienna, but at least these early conquests showed Süleiman's abilities and by that point, of course, people rallied around him.

How different were the internal state issues that Süleiman was facing compared to his European counterparts?

They were similar in the sense that in Western Europe there was Christian conflict with the Reformation and the Counter Reformation and the bloody battles in Germany that killed 100,000 people. In the Ottoman domains, you had conflict between groups today we would call Shia and Sunni. Süleiman had to deal with massive uprisings of tens of thousands of Sufis [and] of armed mystics, dervishes. Perhaps some of them would align with the rival Safavid Empire in Iran and say that actually the Safavid ruler was the Messiah and not Süleiman. There were also individual Sufi spiritualists who said that they were the Messiah, not Süleiman in Istanbul, and so these people were decapitated, but not before some of them raised armies 10,000 strong. This was similar to Western Europe and Central Europe at the time. There was this schism as the religion split in the west into three. Of course, Islam had already split into two, centuries before, but that split was exacerbated in this period.

How did Süleiman go about consolidating the rule of law in the empire?

Well, he's also called the 'Law Giver'. That's the Ottoman title for him, 'Kānūnī', the 'Law Giver'. That was given to him later because he had his law codes, for example in Egypt. Egypt was conquered in 1516-17 but it was Süleiman who around 1525 promulgated a law code for Egypt in which he made these magnificent claims for himself as the 'master of the auspicious conjunction' and so on. He's remembered for bringing together secular law and Islamic law. The reality is that he imposed a law that was best for him and for the dynasty and for the empire. But he always couched things in the language of Islam. If it was a secular law or if it was Islamic law, you would also give it a dynastic import. He was the one who appointed ministers and thinkers who actually best harmonised or seemed to have best harmonised secular law.



The tughra of Suleiman I, which was a form of seal or signature for an Ottoman sultan

It was also at this time that a group of brothers of Albanian descent decided to become pirates and plunder North Africa, as well as any Christian shipping in the area. When their leader had his arm shot off he had it replaced with a prosthetic, which earned him the moniker Silver Arm. He was also known as Barbarossa (Redbeard), and after his violent death his brother Hizir became the new Barbarossa and was the scourge of the Mediterranean. North Africa became part of the Ottoman Empire and yet Bayezid II never sent his own army or armada there – its conquest was all down to these pirates, who captured most of the North African coastline, making them arguably the most successful pirates in history. They got to reap the rewards and treasure while the Ottoman system did the boring stuff like actually running the economy. The new Barbarossa was so effective in naval combat that the king of France offered him anything he wanted to become his admiral, but he declined. Barbarossa retired and lived a quiet life, writing out his thoughts on naval tactics. These were translated into multiple European languages and were essential reading for the next century.

The next sultan was Selim I. He continued to expand the empire, first to the east against the slowly forming Safavid Empire of Iran and then to the south, where we come full circle to the start of this article to Egypt, which was still the seat of power of the Mamelukes. They had been ruling the area for 250 years but Selim I defeated them and made Egypt part of the Ottoman Empire. The victory here was brought about by a grand vizier, which was a rare moment under Selim I's rule because he was not known for his patience. He had so many viziers executed that a common curse of the time was: 'May you be a vizier of Selim's'.

While there can be no doubt that he was a fierce man with a short temper, he had other sides to him as well. He was a poet who wrote in both Ottoman Turkish and Persian and, perhaps surprisingly for a man capable of stunning violence and brutality, he had a humble side. Among the prizes in the conquered Mameluke territory were the three most important religious cities in the world to Jews, Christians and Muslims. Jerusalem was one, but Mecca and Medina also became his property. Mameluke sultans had called themselves 'Ruler of the Two Holy Cities', but Selim showed unexpected humility by taking the more pious title of 'Servant of the Two Holy Cities'.

He is not well known outside of Ottoman historians but the next sultan, his son, is often seen as the apex of the Ottoman civilisation, and his name was Süleiman.

ABOVE The Janissaries were the backbone of the Ottoman army for centuries. Their brightly coloured clothes and military band would intimidate their enemies

> "Selim I had so many viziers executed that a common curse of the time was: 'May you be a vizier of Selim's'"

BELOW This 19th century illustration shows the kaleidoscope of colours seen in Ottoman clothing

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EXPERT BIO

DR STEPHEN P KERSHAW

Dr Stephen P Kershaw has taught classics at a number of universities and now tutors primarily at Oxford University, teaching their online course on Greek mythology. He is the author of *A Brief History of Atlantis: Plato's Ideal State* (Robinson, 2017).

THE HUNT FOR ATLANTIS

The legendary lost continent has become an object of fascination since Plato first mentioned the sunken city, but was it real or merely an allegorical fable?

Written by Callum McKelvie

The alluring mystery of the sea has obsessed man for centuries. Author Peter Benchley, best known for *Jaws*, wrote in his 1977 novel *The Deep* that: "You could start now, and spend another forty years learning about the sea without running out of new things to know." From the Flying Dutchman to the Mary Celeste, there are all manner of myths and legends connected with the deep, but perhaps none more famous than that of the lost civilisation of Atlantis. Sometimes described as a continent bigger than Africa and North Asia put together, Atlantis was said to be home to a technologically and socially advanced race, before it sank beneath the waves. Since Plato first related the fable, many

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have searched for the lost continent and numerous sites have been suggested as possible locations. "Pick a spot on the map, and someone has said that Atlantis was there," anthropologist Charles Orser told *National Geographic*. But as the ancient myth of Atlantis continues to grow and expand, the question emerges of why has no one ever found the lost civilisation? Is there any evidence to suggest it existed in the first place? From Ancient Greek philosophers to 20th century Greek archaeologists, 15th century Jesuit scholars to 19th century US Congressmen, the story of

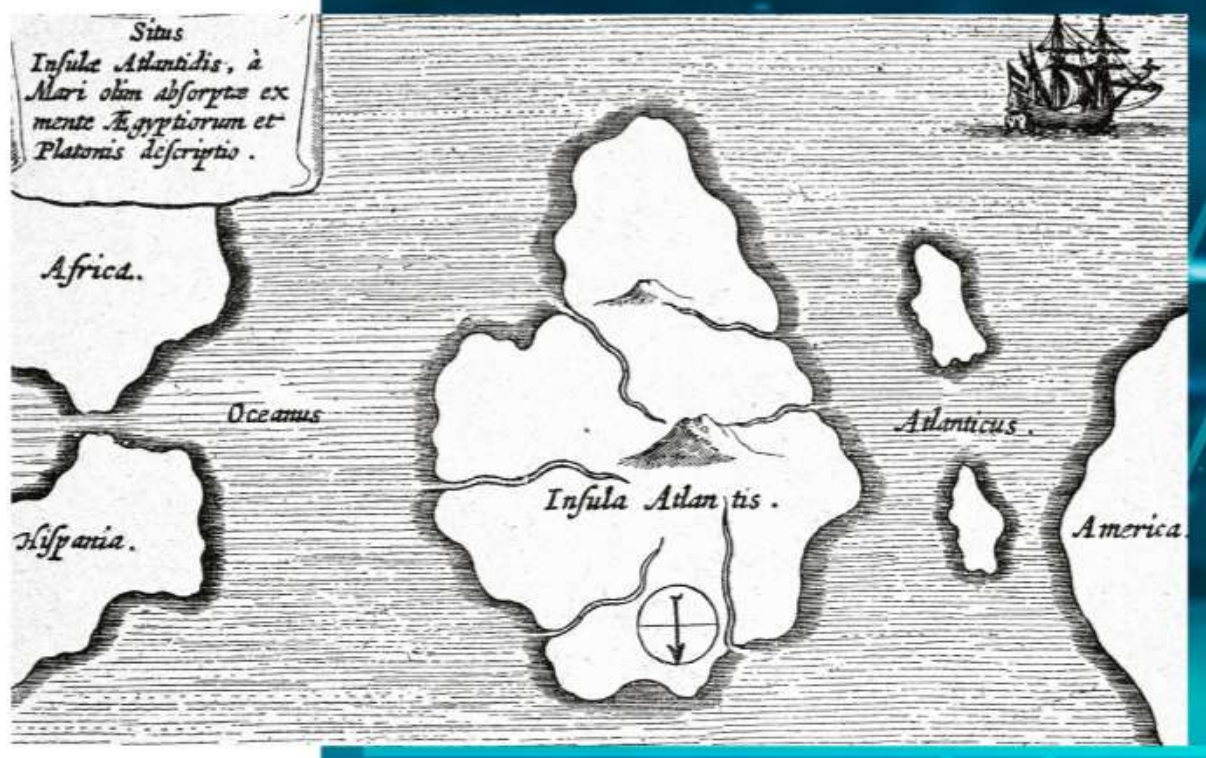
"Atlantis first surfaced as a myth in the 4th century BCE, when Plato told of a Utopian civilisation ruled by creatures who —were half-human and half-god"—

Atlantis unveils a complex world of undersea excavations and fantastic fables.

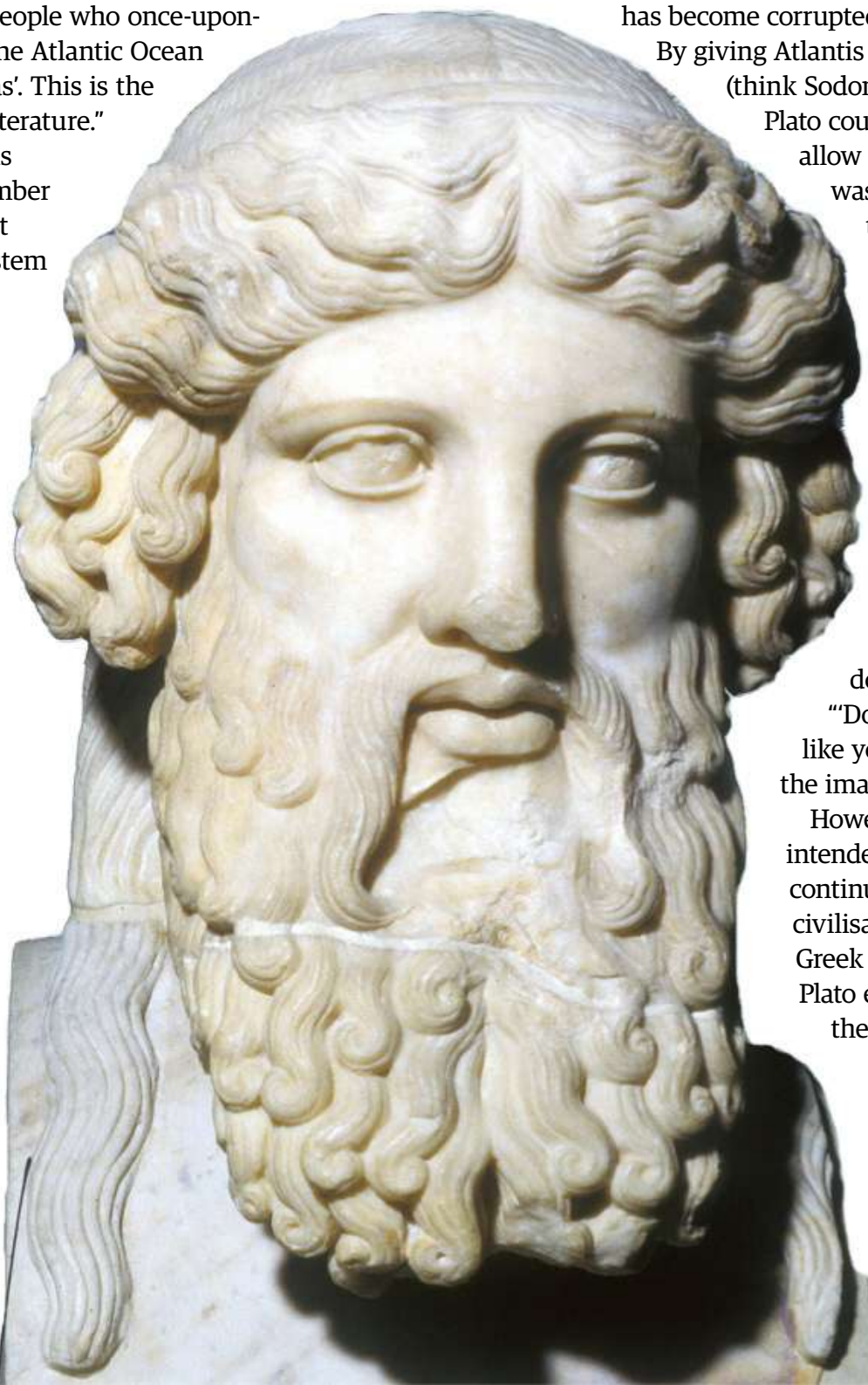
Atlantis first surfaced as a myth in the 4th century BCE, when Plato told of a Utopian civilisation ruled by creatures who were half-human and half-god. He discusses the myth in his dialogues *Timaeus* and *Critias*. "Socrates says that he'd like to hear an example of the Ideal State proving its virtue in a time of conflict," explains Dr Stephen P Kershaw, author of *A Brief History of Atlantis: Plato's Ideal State*. "This prompts an old man called Critias to relate a story about a people who once-upon-a-time inhabited an island, located in the Atlantic Ocean and called Atlantis – 'The Island of Atlas'. This is the first mention of it anywhere in world literature."

The civilisation that Plato describes was a unique naval power, located on a number of islands which were separated by vast moats and connected by a complex system of huge canals. This unique culture was located just beyond the Pillars of Hercules, the location of the modern Strait of Gibraltar.

However, the society that Plato describes as inhabiting Atlantis was not a utopian one as some later tales suggest, but corrupt and decadent. "Critias tells us how the Atlanteans had degenerated into imperialist aggressors," says Kershaw. "Their expansion brought them into conflict with the warriors of an invented antediluvian Athens, which in many ways is an embodiment of Plato's Ideal State. These Athenians heroically and single-handedly repelled the mighty Atlantean forces, after which Zeus decided to punish Atlantis for its hubris." This punishment was a vast cataclysm which destroyed the super-state, causing it to sink forever beneath the waves. Plato's story is certainly an engaging one, a classic tale of good triumphing over evil or, as the Serbian historian Slobodan Dušanić described it in a 1982 paper: "A small but just city triumphs over a mighty aggressor." But is that all Plato meant it to be, or did he intend another meaning to his story?



ABOVE Athanasius Kircher's 17th century map that he claimed showed the location of Atlantis

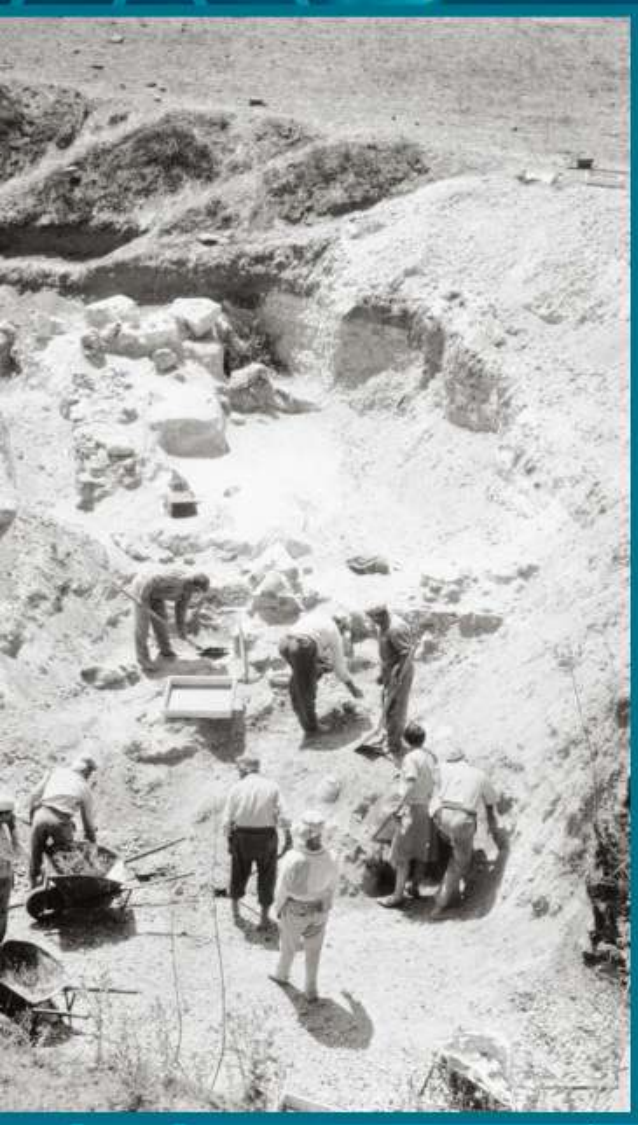


BELOW The earliest mentions of Atlantis come from Plato's *Timaeus* and *Critias*, but was he talking of a real place or merely creating a myth?

Clearly Plato's myth functions as a parable, perhaps intended to carry a very serious message for the Athens of his time. In the centuries since, Plato's *Timaeus* and *Critias* have been examined by scholars both ancient and modern for their true meaning. Archaeologist Kenneth Feder states that, contrary to many later tellings, Plato's Atlantis "is not the perfect society," and is intended to be "the embodiment of a materially wealthy, technologically advanced and militarily powerful nation that has become corrupted by its wealth, sophistication and might."

By giving Atlantis the role of a corrupt but powerful state (think Sodom and Gomorrah with naval superiority) Plato could cast Athens in the role of hero and allow it to question its own ambitions. "Plato was concerned about the political direction that the Athens of his day was moving in," says Kershaw. "Atlantis represents two negative historical role-models: the Persian invaders of Greece, who had famously been beaten by Athens at the Battle of Marathon; and then the Athenians of the mid-5th century BCE onwards themselves, whose expansionist ambitions had come to grief in the disastrous Peloponnesian War against Sparta." Plato intended the fable to carry a dire warning for the Athenians. "Plato's message to his own people is: 'Keep it simple, modest, organised and unified; don't overreach yourselves'," Kershaw tells us. "'Don't be like the barbarous Persians, don't be like your imperialist ancestors, and don't be like the imaginary Atlanteans. It can only end badly'."

However, instead of being read as a fable, intended for the Athenians, the story of Atlantis continued to grow, becoming a legendary 'lost civilisation'. As Gerard Naddaf, an expert in ancient Greek philosophy, noted in a 1994 paper: "Since Plato explicitly tells us the Atlantis story is 'true' the 'general reader' assumes it to be so." So despite the collapse of the Greek and later the Roman empires, Plato's myth refused to fade away. As the Middle Ages dawned a new breed of scholar continued to search and add to the growing mythology. In the



TOP-LEFT The 1967 excavations at Akrotiri, the settlement that may have inspired Plato's tale of Atlantis

TOP-RIGHT James Mavor, centre, supervising the excavations at Akrotiri in 1967

ABOVE The ancient Minoan site of Akrotiri is on the island of Santorini

16th century, the 'discovery' of the New World caused speculation that the Americas were in fact the lost continent. "With the 'discovery' of the New World, Plato's tale became important as Europeans sought to come to terms with previously unsuspected cultures that had never been mentioned in the Bible," Kershaw explains. When impressive Mayan ruins were discovered it was even believed that these peoples were descended from the survivors of Atlantis. "As European knowledge moved further westwards, Atlantis moved westwards with it, and the fact that Plato had spoken of a great lost land in the western sea was helpful," Kershaw continues. "Atlantis started to be seen as the origin of the pre-Columbus inhabitants of the New World, and the idea of the Atlanteans escaping from their sinking island and populating the Americas gained traction because it was felt to account for the great wealth of some of the peoples there."

However, one 17th century Jesuit priest and scholar was about to make a particularly important contribution to the myth of the lost continent. Athanasius Kircher had a wide range of interests, including Ancient Egypt, mathematics and astronomy, and one interest in particular was cartography, with Kircher being

REAL SUNKEN CITIES

Four examples of communities that have been lost to the sea

Thonis-Heracleion

Once a trading port located north-west of Alexandria on the River Nile. A series of earthquakes and other disasters weakened the city and the ground on which it was built succumbed to soil liquefaction, causing many of the city's buildings to collapse into the sea. A variety of artefacts, including coins, pottery and temples have been discovered at the site. One of the most significant finds is a huge 5.4-metre-tall statue of the god Hapi.

Baiae

Once a prominent Roman spa renowned for debauchery and hedonism, Baiae now lies beneath the waves. Such was its renown that even Julius Caesar was said to have visited the town. Baiae was sacked by a Muslim army at some point during the 8th century, and by the 15th century it had been abandoned due to underground pressure causing the land to rise and fall. Its remains were left to the sea and in 2002 the area was made into an underwater archaeological park.

Pavlopetri

Said to be the oldest sunken city in the world, Pavlopetri in Greece is a rare example of a prehistoric town. The site was first discovered in 1967 when Dr Nicholas Fleming, an oceanographer from the University of Southampton, uncovered the remains some three to four metres beneath the surface. It is thought that the town thrived for about 2,000 years before an earthquake caused it to sink beneath the waves. At least 15 buildings have been discovered at the site.

Atlit-Yam

Image source: wiki/Hanay

This neolithic settlement in Israel lay undiscovered until 1984 when a marine archaeologist looking for shipwrecks found the ruins. Dating to around 6900 BCE, along with Pavlopetri it is considered one of the oldest sunken settlements. One of the key discoveries made at the site is a submerged stone circle, likely constructed around a spring. It is believed that a tsunami may have been responsible for the settlement sinking beneath the waves.

All images: © Alamy, © Getty Images

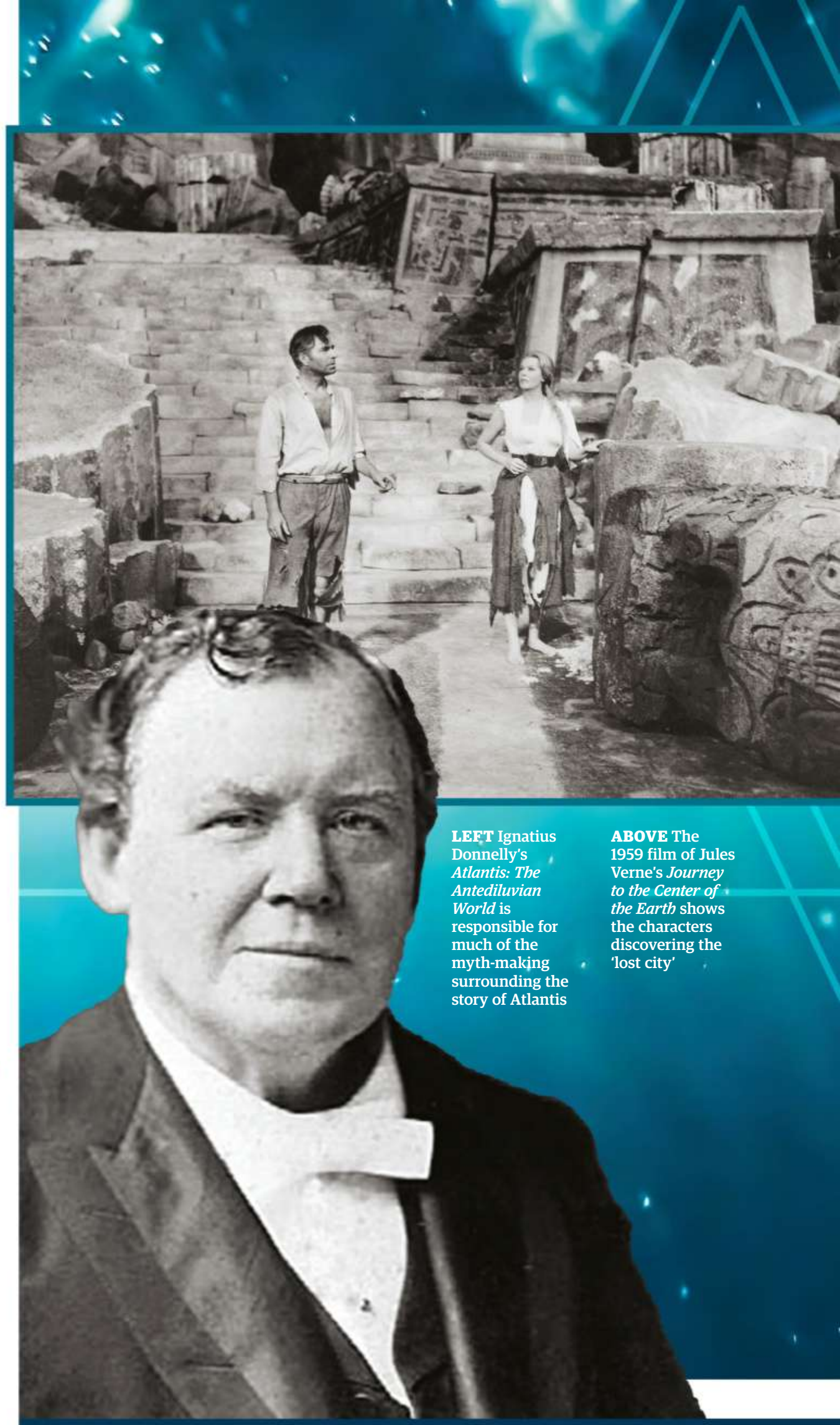
possibly the first person to depict the Pacific 'ring of fire' – an area stretching out across the Pacific Ocean notable for its many active volcanoes. But what of Atlantis? He was also the man responsible for a 1664 (though some sources state 1665) map of it, one of a number of woodcut illustrations for his *Mundus Subterraneus*. This work on the subject of "the divine work of the subterranean world," described how the "whole Earth is not solid but everywhere gaping, and hollowed with empty rooms and spaces, and hidden burrows." A fascinating and complex medieval work in its own right, it is often brought up in discussion of the 'lost continent' due to its map of Atlantis' supposed location. Kircher depicts Atlantis as being in the Atlantic Ocean and shows it being almost as large as Africa and America. Though it has been stated that Kircher's map was based on a series of maps created by the Ancient Egyptians, no substantial evidence has emerged to support this theory.

While the myth of Atlantis never faded during the ensuing centuries, it had to wait until the 19th century before it entered the popular consciousness. "Jules Verne's novel *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*, in which Captain Nemo acts as a guide in an under-sea visit to Atlantis, was responsible for bringing the island into the popular imagination in a way that had never happened before," says Kershaw. However, while Verne's enduring classic was certainly influential, perhaps the key figure in the development of the Atlantean myth as we understand it today is also an unlikely one: American Congressman Ignatius Donnelly.

> "There's no doubt that, whether it be the hunt for a culture that may have inspired Plato or for a mythical land of fantasy, the search for Atlantis will never cease"

Born in 1831, Donnelly was a was a social reformer, editing the *Emigrant Aid Journal* and *The Anti-Monopolist* (a journal which attacked bankers and financiers), as well as representing the interests of small-farmers and landowners. He was also one of the leading advocates of the theory that the plays of William Shakespeare were in fact written by Francis Bacon. In 1882 he authored *Atlantis: The Antediluvian World*, which argued that Plato's story was mostly a factual description of actual events. Author Mark Adams in his book *Meet Me In Atlantis* states that: "Donnelly was... a bag of winds. He knew the results he wanted and rummaged through his sources searching for only those facts that fit his needs, without pausing to note any reasonable doubts." However, whatever his intent, Donnelly's assertion that Atlantis was in fact a real place caused a number of people to search for the 'lost city', a hunt which goes on to this day. "Donnelly was the most influential of all the Atlantis-speculators," Kershaw explains. "His tendentious but hugely successful book was really the start of the modern 'Atlantis industry'."

As time wore on and technology developed, a number of expeditions were launched by hopefuls attempting to locate any evidence of the 'lost civilisation'. In 1931, shortly after the founding of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute (WHOI), its director Henry Bryant Bigelow set sail on an expedition around Plato's original site for Atlantis – the Strait of Gibraltar. Although Bigelow was primarily concerned with examining how the Gulf Stream affects the climate of North America, the expedition planned to remove the top layer of the sea floor and examine what was



LEFT Ignatius Donnelly's *Atlantis: The Antediluvian World* is responsible for much of the myth-making surrounding the story of Atlantis

ABOVE The 1959 film of Jules Verne's *Journey to the Center of the Earth* shows the characters discovering the 'lost city'

ATLANTIS ON FILM

The tale of the lost civilisation has obsessed filmmakers for decades

Siren of Atlantis (1949)

Based on Pierre Benoit's 1919 novel *Atlantida, Siren of Atlantis* suffered from an extremely troubled production, with as many as three directors having worked on the film. It tells the story of a member of the French Foreign Legion who, lost in the desert, stumbles across Atlantis and discovers it is ruled by a beautiful queen.

underneath for any possible Atlantean remains. However, despite all other research being completed, no mention of Atlantis can be found in the expedition's log books.

Almost 30 years later, in 1967 a member of WHOI's staff would once again become involved in the search for Atlantis – this time far more successfully. James Mavor, one of the designers of the deep sea submarine Alvin, worked alongside renowned Greek archaeologist Spyrodin Marinatos in the excavation of Akrotiri. Located off the coast of Santorini (Thera in the classic Greek) Akrotiri was a Bronze Age settlement that was active around 3600 BCE to 1400 BCE, before being buried by a volcanic eruption. The explosion was so big that in 1989 scientists at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory likened the devastation to being the equivalent of two-million times that of the Hiroshima bomb. During the excavations, an elaborate drainage system and even indoor toilets were discovered. The excavation revealed that Akrotiri had clearly been highly a sophisticated settlement, leading to much speculation that it may have been the site of the mythical Atlantis, or at the very least to have inspired Plato. Mavor himself described the site as "one of the most startling archaeological events of this generation," and would publish his theories regarding Akrotiri as a possible Atlantean site in 1969 in the book *Voyage to Atlantis*. "It's a seductive idea," says Kershaw, "and the possibility has attracted the interest of a number of serious scholars, but both the date and effects of the eruption remain highly controversial. The modern tourist industry makes a big deal of the Santorini = Atlantis idea,

ABOVE A recent popular theory is that the island of Sardinia in the Mediterranean may have once been Atlantis

but how the tale might have been transmitted to Plato (or his sources) and no-one else, and in what form, only Plato can say. But he is very quiet on the subject!"

The 21st century has so far seen no let up in the number of theories relating to Atlantis, and every few years a new story emerges that it may have finally been found. The island of Sardinia is another site that is often associated with the mythical sunken city, an idea that gained momentum in 2002 when the journalist Sergio Frau published *Le Colonne d'Ercole* (published in German as *Atlantika*). The crux of this particular theory is that the Pillars of Hercules, central to Plato's location of the city, were in fact once in Sicily before being localised at Gibraltar. And in 2018 researchers at Merlin Burrows, a North Yorkshire-based company that uses satellites to scan land and sea for, among other things, archeological sites, made headlines when they claimed that they had uncovered evidence of underwater ruins on the Atlantic coast of Spain. Merlin Burrows CEO Bruce Blackburn said: "Obviously, it's a very bold thing to say. Everybody is going to have [one of] two opinions: one is that: 'This is great. Let's have a look at it,' and one will be: 'That's a load of rubbish!'." Over the successive years the story slowly vanished from the headlines, as evidence emerged to combat the company's claims.

There's no doubt that, whether it be the hunt for a culture that may have inspired Plato or for a mythical land of fantasy, the search for Atlantis will never cease. While Plato intended his story of Atlantis to be an example of unchecked hubris, imperial ambition and the dangers of excess, the following centuries have seen it transformed into a mythical lost world. Kershaw concludes: "In a way, the frenzied search for the 'lost' island misses the point: total excess was never enough for an Atlantean and they brought about their own destruction in search of it, providing a dire warning not only to the Athenians of Plato's time but for our political leaders too."

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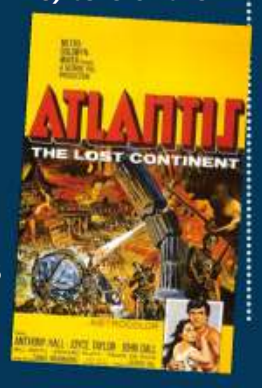
Atlantis: The Lost Continent (1961)

This fantasy epic by legendary producer George Pal (responsible for 1953's *The War of the Worlds* and 1960's *The Time Machine*) tells of the events leading up to the destruction of Atlantis during the time of the Ancient Greeks. It received poor reviews and is notable mainly for its use of stock footage.

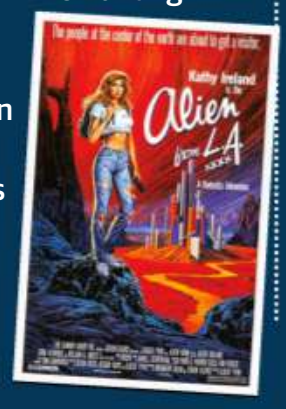


Island of Fishmen (1979)

This Italian production tells of a villain who controls an army of fishmen on an uncharted Caribbean island, using them to uncover treasures from the sunken city of Atlantis. The film was re-edited and recut by notorious genre pioneer Roger Corman for its American release, with a violent prologue added.

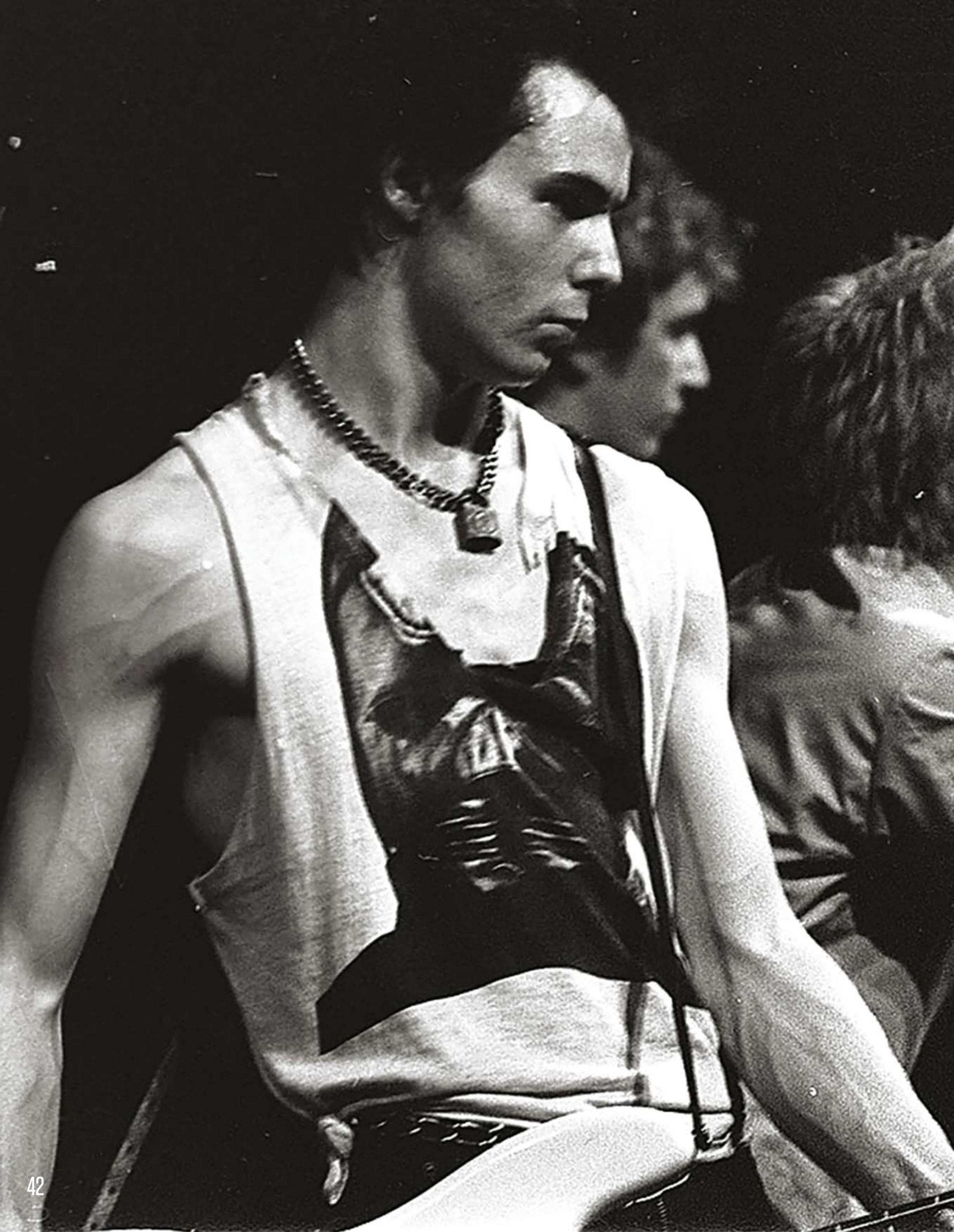
Alien from L.A. (1988)

This sci-fi action-comedy produced by the infamous Cannon Films stars Kathy Ireland as a teenage girl who enters the subterranean world of Atlantis while hunting for her missing father. Bizarre and outlandish, in 1989 a direct-to-video sequel was made – *Journey to the Center of the Earth*.



Atlantis: The Lost Empire (2001)

This 2001 Disney animation was an attempt by the creative team behind 1996's *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* to create an animated blockbuster action film, akin to the 1954 adaptation of *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*. The movie is considered unique in adopting the distinctive style of comic book artist Mike Mignola.



THE STORY OF PUNK

Written by Hareth Al Bustani

Anarchy, attitude and reckless abandon – the history of one of music's most explosive movements

It's dark, dingy and sweaty. Singers vomit across the stage; bottles smash and blind audience members; household names are cursed at and mocked on live television; there's swastikas, drugs and murder-suicide – how did it all come to this?

In the mid-1970s, after years of discontent, long-simmering anger finally exploded into full-blown rage. Flower power had wilted and the anti-establishment, counter-culture movements of the 1960s had crystallised into something harder, more jagged. Yet it is difficult to pinpoint quite where the punk movement first began. After all, often inaccurately characterised as simple rock 'n' roll performed by bands with elementary musical ability, punk transcended mere music. It was an attitude.

Musician and author of *Punk Rock: An Oral History*, John Robb, explains: "There is no doubt that rebel songs have always been with us, from crazed loons singing anti-imperial songs in Roman times to wild-eyed medieval minstrels enlightening the market place with

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their toothless anti-authoritarian rants. It's always been with us, that wild spirit, that outsider cry. It's only recently it's been with electricity – and louder and wilder."

Some have argued that the moment Bob Dylan spontaneously went electric at Newport Folk Festival, consciously alienating huge swathes of his fanbase, was punk at its purest; others heard it in the drug-drenched drones of the Velvet Underground, whose influence splintered out to punk, art rock, goth and industrial.

Robb reflects: "Punk rock as we know it was a culmination of everything that had gone on in pop before, from the electric filth of hard rock, the wild abandon of the Stooges, the mass media f**k of Elvis, the pure revolution promised by the hippies, the sharp lines of the mods and the sneering rebel shapes of the rockers, to the stomping pop blitzkrieg of glam rock – even the experimentation of prog rock and Seventies underground art rock."

The genre's most distinctive musical roots were laid in the late 1960s. As the decade's psychedelic and pretentious excess boiled over, in the shadows, hippie fatigue led to the emergence of the stripped-back garage rock genre, with bands like the Stooges and The Cramps forgoing cosmic experimentation for thumping, emotive heavy guitar strumming.

Fronted by the hypnotic, shirtless Detroit frontman Iggy Pop, the Stooges "had single-handedly in the late Sixties pushed rock 'n' roll further and deeper into the nihilistic canyon that would eventually yield punk rock," says Robb. He adds: "Without Iggy's superhuman performances and the Stooges' two-chord uber-grunt rock 'n' roll, punk would never have existed."

Meanwhile, New York's Velvet Underground, founded in 1965 by Lou Reed and John Cale under the patronage of Andy Warhol, poured out experimental rock 'n' roll songs like *Heroin* and *Venus in Furs*, exploring drug addiction and sadomasochism – foreshadowing what writer Tricia Henry describes as punk's "deliberate departure from popular music trends."

At the dawn of the 1970s, following a year that saw both the shocking Manson murders and the notorious Altamont Free Concert, this fatigue began to go mainstream. As Robb articulates: "The decade that promised so much but had crashed in a morass of drugs and flared denim." Amid the glittering rise of glam rock, made somewhat palatable by Marc Bolan and David Bowie, when the New York Dolls made their first appearance on *The Old Grey Whistle Test* TV show its host Bob Harris was left "looking bemused," in a "generation-gap moment," writes Robb.

"The Dolls, along with the Stooges, had pushed the barriers further, making music louder, lewder and cruder than anyone ever before. The Dolls were the gum-chewing, trashed-up, stack-heeled New York super tarts with too much make-up and bad attitude." Screaming in eccentric attire, over banging Rolling Stones-style songs, the Dolls revelled in scandal, doing Nazi salutes and vomiting during photo shoots.

Inspired by the garage rockers of yesteryear, New York's raucous bands like the Ramones and The Cramps burst onto the scene in a hail of distortion, upbeat tempos and rapid rhythms. While mega-bands like Led Zeppelin and Pink Floyd reinforced their art with remarkable virtuosic ability, these bands were all about attitude: raw, rough and ready.

Nowhere was this attitude clearer than the city's CBGB 'Country, Bluegrass and Blues' club, started by Hilly Kristal in 1973. Among those who performed on its stage were Richard Hell, who wore torn up clothes stitched together with safety pins; Patti Smith, who performed poems set to music; Blondie; and the Talking Heads.

However, perhaps the most notable act to burst through its doors were the Ramones – a ragtag bunch of shaggy-haired rockers with a disarming lack of musical prowess. Spouting anti-social and pessimistic lyrics over banging, simple rock tracks, they were a bizarre sensation, embodying a new type of rebel spirit, driven by nihilism, passion and hedonism. When their debut album was released on 23 April 1976, it had a "seismic" effect

"THE CLASH WROTE ABOUT THE ISSUES AFFECTING THE GRITTY UNDERBELLY OF LONDON'S INNER-CITY STREETS"

A BAND CALLED DEATH

The Black 'proto-punk' band that time forgot

After years of jamming R&B in their parents' garage, in 1973, inspired by an Alice Cooper show, three brothers transitioned into hard rock. While David Hackney penned songs and powered through the guitar, Bobby played bass and sang, and Dannis hammered the drums. Performing at cabarets and garage parties across Detroit's east side, Death bewildered their predominantly Black audiences, who were more accustomed to the Philadelphia sound – with soul and funk acts like Earth, Wind & Fire and the Isley Brothers. Aside from their hard brand of rock 'n' roll, the band's name Death also struck an uncomfortable chord with many, who perceived it as overly nihilistic.

Regardless, they landed a deal with label Groovesville and recorded at United Sound Recording Studios – alongside acts like Funkadelic and Gladys Knight. The label owner took them to meet a major record executive in New York, who expressed an interest in signing the band – on one condition: the name Death had to go. Unwilling to relinquish creative control for commercial gain, the band dug in their heels and refused.

After leaving the label in 1976, Death pressed 500 copies of their single, *Politicians in My Eyes*, backed by the song *Keep On Knocking*. The music was years ahead of its time: anarchic proto-punk infused with musical excellence, straddling a tightrope between chaos and reason, always threatening to roar out of control yet never doing so.

But the band's 'punk' attitude resulted in a lack of commercial success, especially with the rise of disco. Their music went largely unheard and almost disappeared entirely, until their 1974 demo tape resurfaced in 2009. Since then it has been hailed as one of the finest 'punk' albums of all time, a visionary body of work pre-dating the emergence of the movement by several years.

LEFT Punk's most iconic aesthetics, and the Sex Pistols, were both born at London's SEX boutique, managed by Malcolm McLaren and partner Vivienne Westwood

INSET-LEFT The Sex Pistols' frontman Johnny Rotten embodied the spirit of the times: intense, angry and relentlessly independent

The Clash transcended punk, creating politically informed music spanning multiple genres, becoming hugely popular across the planet

on the music scene, with shockwaves still felt to this day, writes Robb. Although it "wasn't a hit," it "fired up the underground," especially the nascent British punk scene, he adds.

Recorded at the prestigious Plaza Sound Studios in New York City's Radio City Music Hall for just $6,000, it was a manic 28 minutes of 14 short songs, slammed together in a "surge of buzzsaw guitars" – most famously the uncannily catchy *Blitzkrieg Bop*.

The music made its way into the British underground, working its way into the consciousnesses of teenagers such as Johnny Rotten, who sneered: "The New York scene has always been really seedy, tatty, dirty old people. We were 17, they were 25. The New York bands all had wealthy parents who bought them nice shiny guitars and they stuck Rimbaud poetry over everything, and nonsense like that."

Rotten's comments reflect the tone of discontent among British youth of the time. In the mid-70s, English social conditions were at their lowest since World War II. With unemployment at 6 percent and rising, simmering racial tensions, the pound plummeting and a growing class divide, the politically charged, working-class youth were angry. In *The Death and Life of Punk, The Last Subculture*, Dylan Clark writes: "At the heart of early punk was calculated anger. It was anger at the establishment and anger at the allegedly soft rebellion of the hippie counterculture; anger, too, at the commodification of rock and roll."

The epicentre of this perfect storm was the eccentric Malcolm McLaren – former manager of the New York Dolls and co-founder of the iconic King's Road bondage and counterculture boutique, SEX, in London. It was here where he met a bunch of misfits – guitarist Steve Jones, bassist Glen Matlock and drummer Paul Cook – the founding members of the Sex Pistols. The last, and most crucial, band member to join was vocalist and lyricist Johnny Rotten, who recalls walking into the shop with his spiked hair and self-made clothes: "The Sex Pistols, when they spotted me on the King's Road with my 'I Hate Pink Floyd' T-shirt on, thought, 'Oh, he'll

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do.' I don't think they knew what they were getting hold of."

Summing up the emerging fashion of the punk counter-culture, Rotten explains: "I did what I wanted, plain and simple, and I was not amused to see 100 idiots copying that exact thing. Most of what I would wear would be out of sheer poverty, a sheer lack of money. Safety pins came in because the f***ing arse in my pants fell out. It was just a matter of practicality, but then the likes of Zandra Rhodes at the time would make her £1,000 dresses out of safety pins, jumping on that like it was a fashion, a category."

The Pistols' first gig, at St Martin's Art College in November 1975, ended with the band being heckled and booted off stage after just 10 minutes. In February 1976, they were described in a newspaper review as "vulgar and untalented," before being banned from a string of London venues after brawling with audiences. That summer they landed a regular slot at the 100 Club, propelling them into the limelight. However, when one of the band's close friends, Sid Vicious, hurled a glass that shattered and blinded an audience member, the club banned all punk bands.

For all the doors it closed, the band's notoriety attracted enormous amounts of publicity, earning a record deal with EMI in October. The next month, they released their first single, *Anarchy in the UK*. "From Steve Jones' opening salvo of descending chords, to Johnny Rotten's fantastic sneering vocals, this song is the perfect statement," says Robb. "Brilliant lyrics, a powerhouse rhythm section and a stunningly powerful piece of punk politics made this more than a normal single. *Anarchy in the UK* is a lifestyle choice, a manifesto that heralds a new era."

However, after an obscenity-laced interview on *Britain Today*, where the band insulted host, Bill Grundy, EMI realised it had grossly underestimated just how controversial the band would be. Though seemingly tame by today's standards, at the time it was an immensely

The Slits formed in London in 1976

ABOVE English band X-Ray Spex, fronted by Poly Styrene, c.1978

BELOW The spearhead of the punk movement, producing just one remarkable album, the Sex Pistols were trailed by a storm of anarchy and outrage wherever they went

shocking moment, as Robb describes: "For many scene aficionados, this was the moment that punk rock died. For the band themselves, it was the moment they stopped being about music and became a media event."

The controversy culminated in a gig in Holland where the band ended up vomiting in an almighty mess – prompting the label to drop them after just a few months. The next year, the Pistols were signed by A&M Records, with new bassist Sid Vicious, only to be dropped after six days. Snapped up by Virgin Records, despite their single *God Save the Queen* being banned by the BBC, their popularity continued to soar, leading to the release of their only album, *Never Mind the Bollocks, Here's the Sex Pistols*.

Even with many retailers refusing to sell the album, it was incredibly popular and went Gold. The Pistols' roaring popularity carried them to a US tour, where their notoriety again preceded them. The band rapidly burned itself out, with Rotten finishing their last gig, in San Francisco's Winterland, by scowling: "Ever get the feeling you've been cheated?"

Henry notes that punk "used many of the same revolutionary tactics employed by members of early avant-garde movements: unusual fashions; the blurring of boundaries between art and everyday life; juxtapositions of seemingly disparate objects and behaviors; intentional provocation of the audience; use of untrained performers; and drastic reorganization (or disorganization) of accepted performative styles and procedures".

In the Pistols' case, this blurring of art and life was a dangerous formula – one that Johnny Rotten had grown

'EMI REALISED IT HAD GROSSLY UNDERESTIMATED JUST HOW CONTROVERSIAL THE SEX PISTOLS WOULD BE'

tired of – departing to form the more experimental Public Image Ltd. But Sid Vicious continued to descend into a nightmare of addiction and antisocial behaviour: he was charged with the murder of his partner Nancy Spungen, before dying of a heroin overdose.

Britain's other largest punk band, The Clash, persevered – building a more articulate school of punk that spanned reggae, dub, jazz and hip hop. Describing themselves as: "We're anti-fascist, we're anti-violence, we're anti-racist and we're pro-creative," The Clash wrote about the issues affecting the gritty underbelly of London's inner-city streets; spanning tower blocks, drugs and racial tensions. Their first single, *White Riot*, referenced the Notting Hill Carnival riot of August 1976, which songwriters Joe Strummer and Paul Simonon had attended. Having grown up among the West Indian communities of Brixton and Ladbroke Grove, Simonon was particularly "addicted" to reggae, and sensitive to institutional racism.

TOP Performing at the legendary CBGB club with a new sound and attitude, for those tired of the excesses of prog rock the Ramones were a breath of fresh air

ABOVE Screaming through a wall of glittering glam rock, the New York Dolls were among the first bands to highlight the growing generational gap of the decade to come

London Calling (1979) was a journey across rock 'n' roll, soul, reggae, jazz, ska and funk – and was voted *Rolling Stone*'s album of the decade. Breaking into the Top 10 in the US in 1982, the band split up three years later, having played a leading role in steering punk into the more experimental post-punk landscape, occupied by bands like Joy Division, Gang of Four, The Cure and Johnny Rotten's – now John Lydon's – Public Image Ltd.

By this time, Robb describes the "second wave" of punk reaching its peak: "By 1979 there was a whole mass of established mini-scenes, including the 'death to trad rock' post-rockers; the quite brilliant 2 Tone movement spearheaded by The Specials; the mod revival inspired by The Jam... and a psychobilly scene of Fifties rockabilly cranked up with punk energy featuring The Meteors and The Cramps."

However, with the deaths of Joy Division's frontman Ian Curtis and The Ruts' Malcolm Owen, many viewed 1980 as the official death of punk. Over the ensuing decade, the aftershocks of the punk explosion splintered into numerous directions – from New Wave to the Goths. Though the initial impact became diluted, the attitude survived, informing Nirvana and Sonic Youth while ushering in the architects of Britpop such as The Stone Roses and creating a thread tying the music of the 1960s to the 1990s' pop punk rockers Blink 182 and Green Day – and beyond. Though the spirit lives on, few have ever touched the uncontrolled heights of punk at its most wildly unrestrained.

PUNK CULTURE

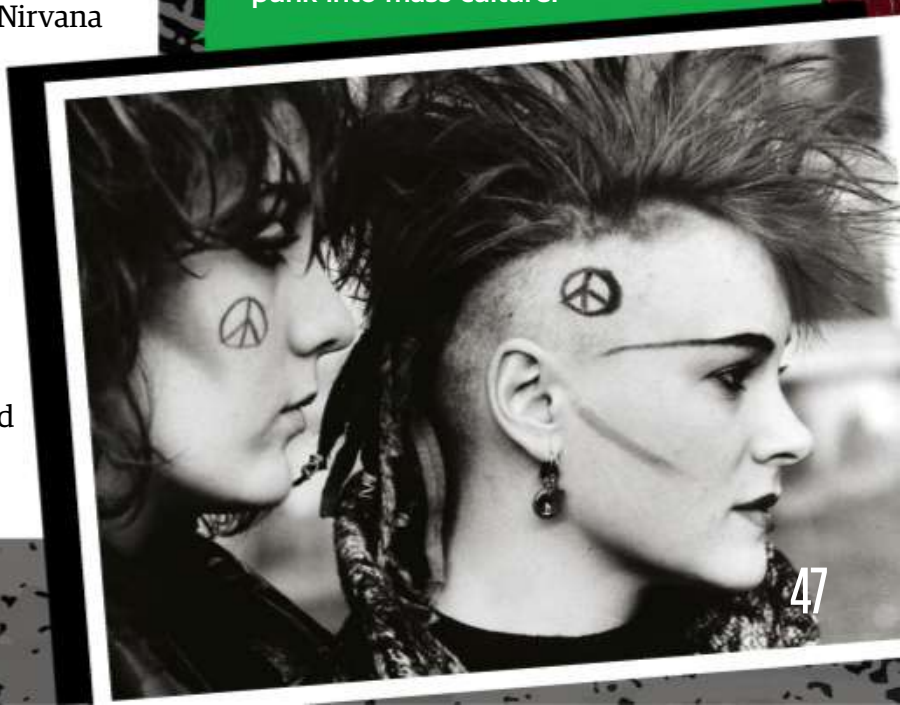
Despite a common core of anarchistic rebellion, the punk subculture was surprisingly varied, sometimes violently so

In the 1970s, high oil prices coalesced with massive inflation, recession and mass unemployment, triggering unrest across the world. For Britain's youth, the 'stagflation' era was marked by a sense of hopelessness and class divide.

While the punk movement was a direct result of this sentiment, pitting itself against rival, aging subcultures such as the hippies, it lacked a greater sense of cohesion. Some punks identified as Marxists, or at least Left Wing, with The Clash emphatically rejecting fascism and racism; others brandished the swastika – some ironically, others to recruit members to far-right groups.

The one aspect that bridged punk's various forms was a rejection of mainstream and traditional values, structures and hierarchies. Young 'punks' began to cobble together clothes representing a rejection of consumerism and commercialism, designed to shock, offend and subvert. Infusing elements pioneered by the SEX boutique, clothes were ripped and modified, scribbled on with permanent marker, adorned with pornographic imagery, swear words, and even offensive symbols such as Sid Vicious' notorious swastika – worn as an insult to the older WWII generation.

In later years, punks styled their hair in spikes and mohawks, dressing in chokers and chains, Dr Martens boots, tartans and torn fishnets. However, starting with Zandra Rhodes, fashion designers began to take note of the punk aesthetic, culminating in its appropriation into the mainstream. In 1981, even Vivienne Westwood and Malcolm McLaren hit the catwalk, coinciding with the gentle dilution of punk into mass culture.



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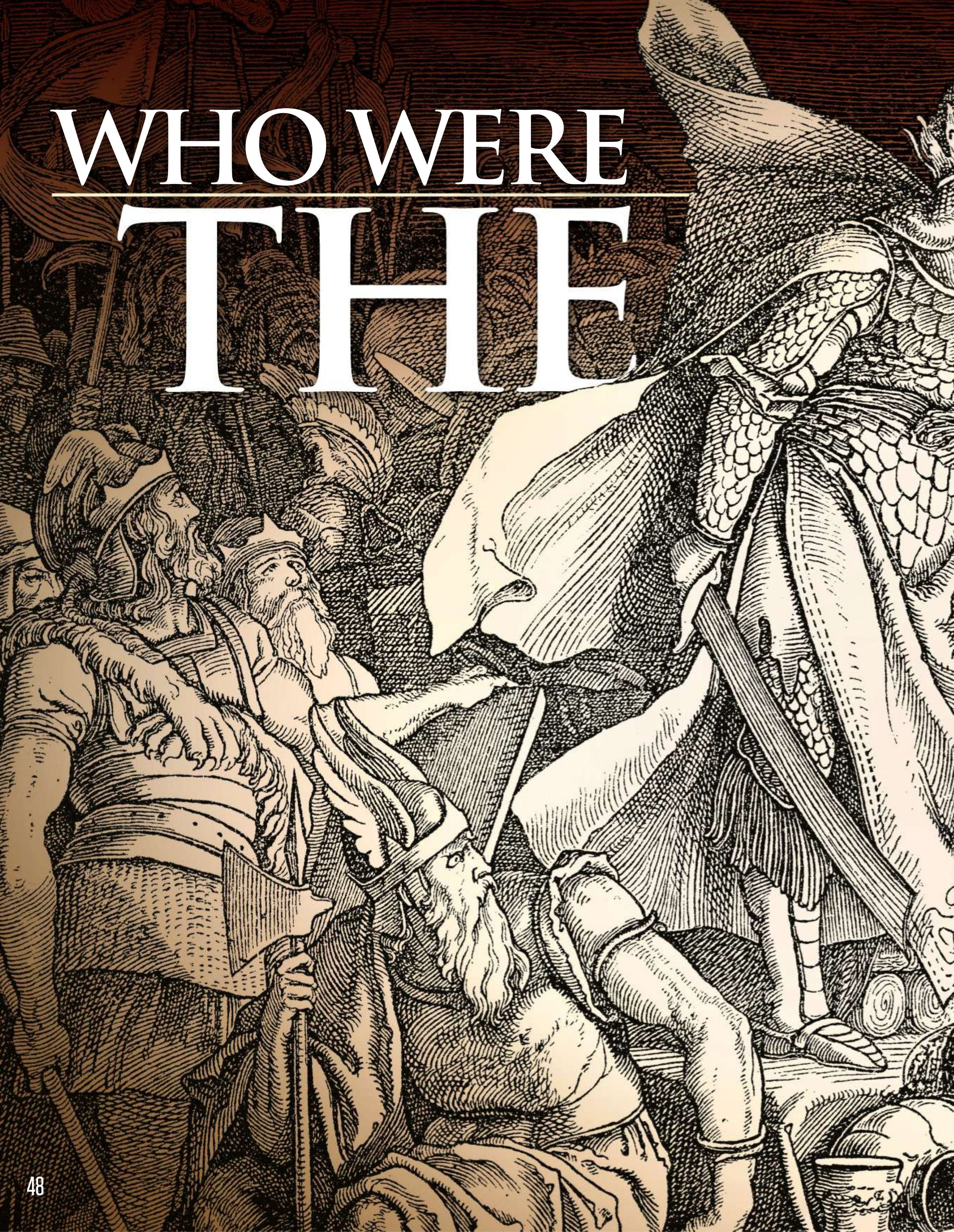
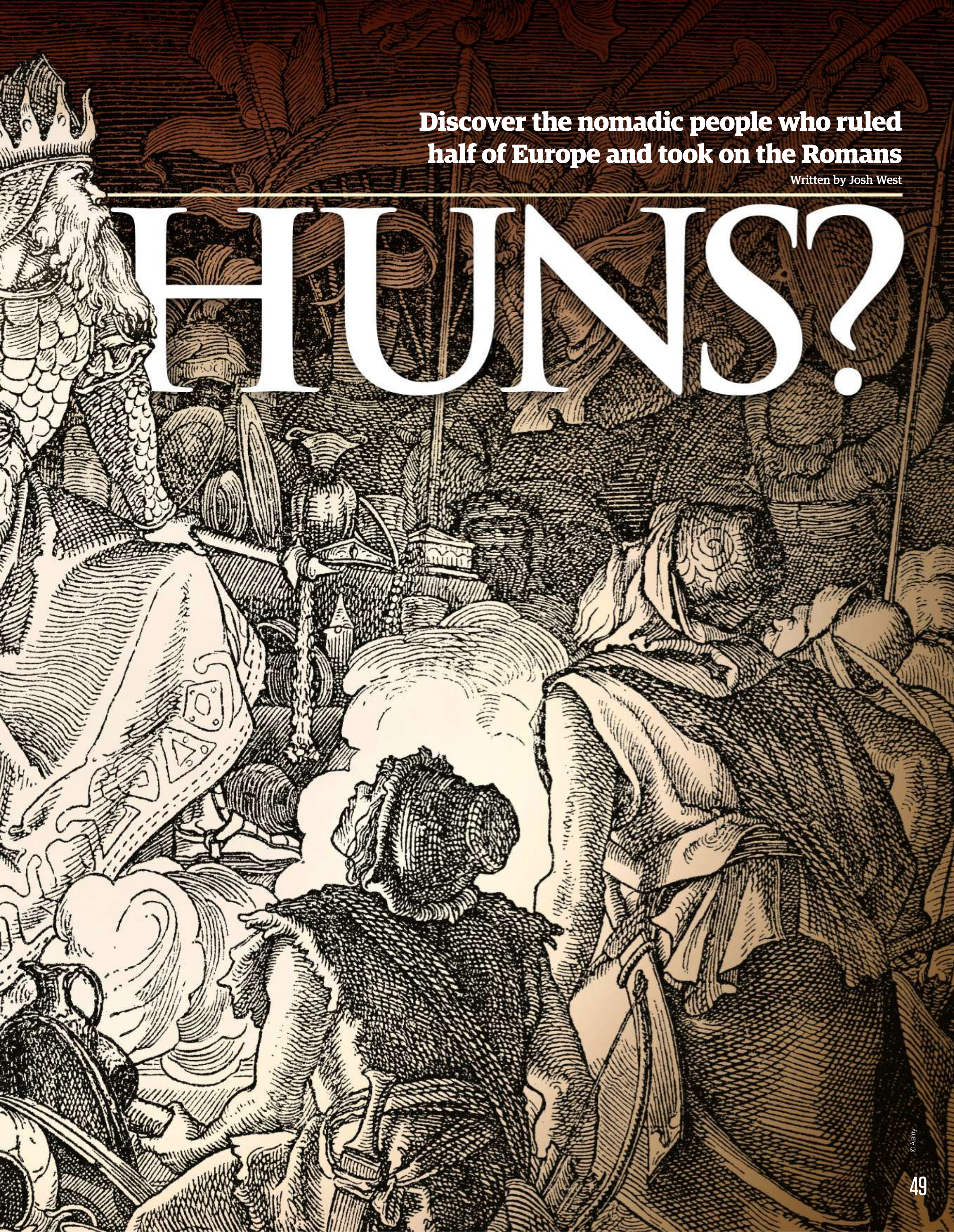
WHO WERE THE



Discover the nomadic people who ruled half of Europe and took on the Romans

Written by Josh West

HUNS?



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The Huns were pastoral nomads who, for seven decades between their arrival in Europe in 370 CE and the 450s CE, amassed a huge empire in the north and east of the continent. Their soldiers, with their formidable techniques and incredible speed, were universally feared and overcame almost every enemy in their path to forge Europe's first and largest empire outside of Rome.

Under its infamous king, Attila, the Hunnic empire stretched from the Rhine to the Caspian Sea and from the Baltic Sea to the Balkans. Through both direct military campaigns and their uprooting of Germanic tribes, the Huns played a significant role in the decline and ultimate fall of the Western Roman Empire. Yet by the end of the 450s CE the Huns had all but vanished, leaving behind only stories of their brutal culture.

Origins

The origins of the Huns are heavily debated. According to the 6th-century Gothic historian Jordanes in his history *Getica*, the Goths believed the Huns were the offspring of 'unclean spirits' and witches, put on Earth to destroy their peoples.

The French Orientalist Joseph de Guignes argued in the 18th century that the Huns were an offshoot of the Xiongnu peoples of Mongolia, who regularly harassed and invaded Han China in the 1st century BCE. This Hun-Xiongnu link, however, has been widely dismissed, and many historians agree with historian Christopher Kelly's argument that the Huns originated "somewhere between the eastern edge of the Altai Mountains and the Caspian Sea, roughly modern Kazakhstan."

But recent research published by Hyun Jin Kim in his book *The Huns* supports the Hun-Xiongnu link. He argues they emerged in 2nd-century Mongolia before splitting into two societies, one heading to the east, the other to the west. By the mid-4th century the western Huns had control over much of the Eurasian Steppe, including modern Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. By the time the Europeans first encountered the Huns on the Volga River in 370 CE, they also controlled modern southern Russia and Ukraine.

Warfare and Hunnic expansion

Following their arrival in 370 CE, the Huns' expansion into Europe was terrifyingly swift. Within the year they had defeated the Alani people and by 372 CE they had overrun the Ostrogoths. Then they subjugated the Visigoths in Romania, arriving at the Roman frontier of the River Danube in 376 CE. In just a decade the Huns controlled over half of Europe.

The reason for such drastic expansion was, says Kim, the Huns' "virtually invincible army". Europe had never seen warriors like the Huns before. The Roman historian Ammianus Marcellinus (c.330 CE – c.400 CE) described their warcraft during their first invasion of the Roman Empire in 395 CE: "They fight in no regular order of battle, but by being extremely swift and sudden in their movements, they disperse, and then rapidly come together again in loose array, spread havoc over vast plains; they pillage the camp of their enemy almost before he has become aware of their approach."

> "The Huns were also known to lasso their enemies, tearing them off their horses and dragging them to their death"

The key to the Huns' success was their superb horsemanship. Hunnic children would learn how to ride from the age of three, and Marcellinus described them as "glued to their horses." Expert horseback archers, the Huns were characterised by mobility and speed, perfect for confusing the enemy and ambush attacks. They used seasoned birch for their composite bows and trilobate arrowheads made of lighter bone, allowing them to strike a target from over 70 metres away. They were also known to lasso their enemies, tearing them off their horses and dragging them to their death. Their armour of heavy leather, made supple and waterproof with animal fat, and chainmail for the neck and shoulders, further made them more agile than their enemy.

Much of our knowledge of the Huns' military tactics comes from *Strategikon*, a 6th-century document describing the warfare of steppe peoples written by Byzantine Emperor Maurice. According to him, the Huns preferred to fight at long range, utilising ambush, encirclement and the feigned retreat. They brought extra horses to trick the enemy into believing them a larger force and preferred to pursue their enemies relentlessly after a victory and then wear them out with a long siege.

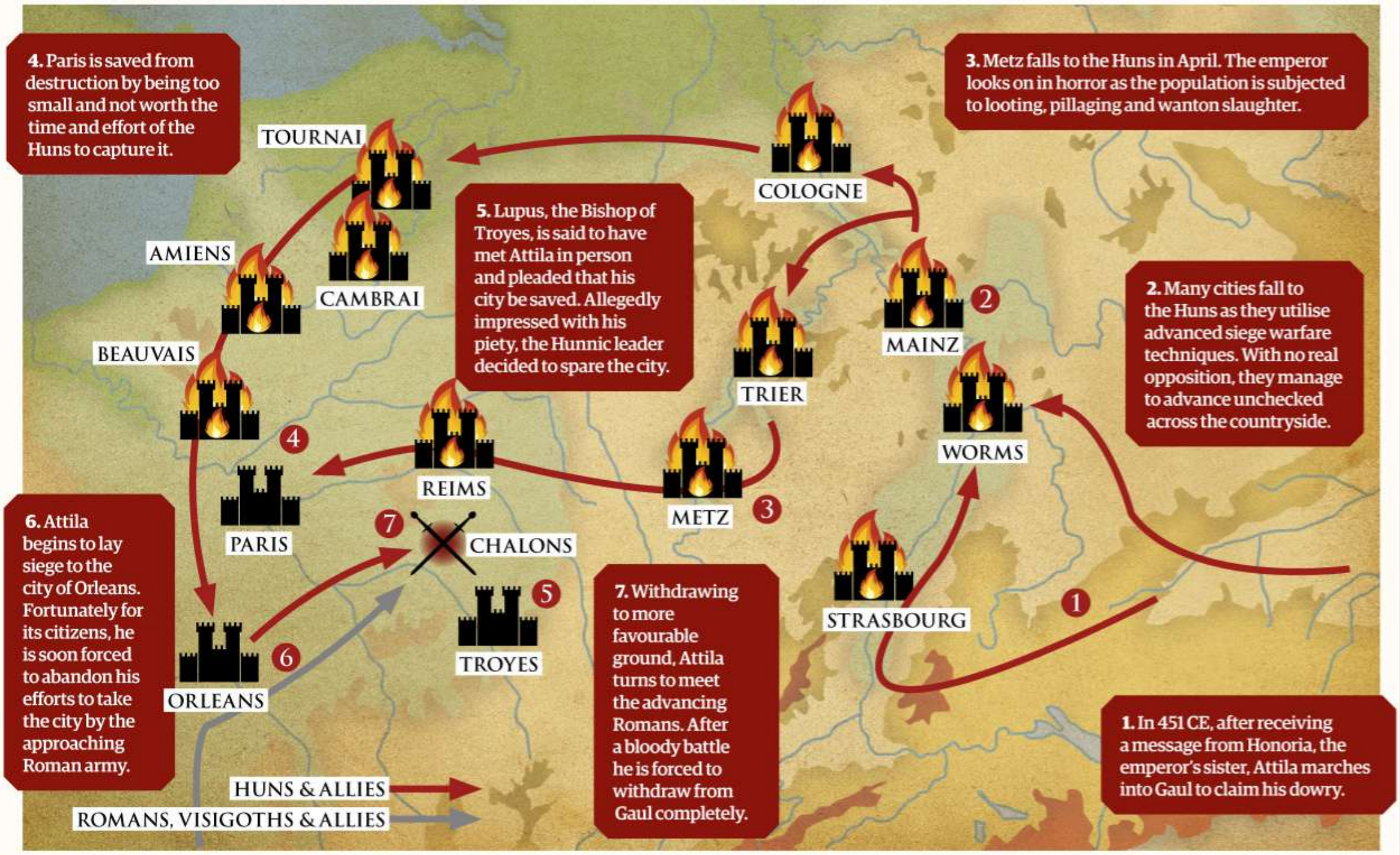
What also set the Huns apart from other non-Roman armies was their incorporation of enemy technology. Unlike the Goths, the Huns quickly became adept at siege warfare at the sight of Roman walled fortifications, adopting technology like the

BELOW-LEFT
One of the key weapons the Huns had were their mounted archers

BELOW-RIGHT
A fragment of Hunnic art from a piece of carpet, now housed in Saint Petersburg

THE INVASION OF GAUL

Meeting very little resistance at first, Attila was free to sack the cities of Gaul at will


4. Paris is saved from destruction by being too small and not worth the time and effort of the Huns to capture it.
3. Metz falls to the Huns in April. The emperor looks on in horror as the population is subjected to looting, pillaging and wanton slaughter.
5. Lupus, the Bishop of Troyes, is said to have met Attila in person and pleaded that his city be saved. Allegedly impressed with his piety, the Hunnic leader decided to spare the city.
2. Many cities fall to the Huns as they utilise advanced siege warfare techniques. With no real opposition, they manage to advance unchecked across the countryside.
6. Attila begins to lay siege to the city of Orleans. Fortunately for its citizens, he is soon forced to abandon his efforts to take the city by the approaching Roman army.
7. Withdrawing to more favourable ground, Attila turns to meet the advancing Romans. After a bloody battle he is forced to withdraw from Gaul completely.
1. In 451 CE, after receiving a message from Honoria, the emperor's sister, Attila marches into Gaul to claim his dowry.
TOURNAI
COLOGNE
AMIENS
CAMBRAI
MAINZ
BEAUVAIS
TRIER
WORMS
REIMS
METZ
PARIS
CHALONS
STRASBOURG
TROYES
ORLEANS
HUNS & ALLIES
ROMANS, VISIGOTHS & ALLIES

battering ram and heavy artillery. They also incorporated armies they had defeated into their own, benefiting from their skills and knowledge. Jordanes described how Atilla would place Hunnic warriors in the centre and subject peoples in the wings when fighting the Romans.

Hunnic Society and Culture

It is very difficult to piece together what life was like as a Hun besides what was written about them by Roman historians. These accounts are, however, filled with unflattering depictions of 'barbarian' and Asian stereotypes. Marcellinus described them thus: "The nation of the Huns surpasses all other barbarians in wildness of life. And though they do just bear the likeness of men (of a very ugly pattern), they are so little advanced in civilisation that they make no use of fire in the preparation of their food, but feed upon the roots which they find in the fields, and the half-raw flesh of any sort of animal."

Fortunately, modern historians have recovered a more flattering and accurate depiction of Hunnic society. Otto Maenchen-Helfen, in *The World of the Huns*, unveiled a highly intricate economy. As nomadic pastoralists, Huns depended mostly on their herds for food and trade, which could include cattle, horses, sheep, goats and sometimes even camels. They lived in tents of sheepskin or felt (though the nobility used silk) and much of their diet came from their animals, including drinking horse milk. The Hunnic economy was based on tribute from the Romans and subject peoples like the Ostrogoths, alongside booty from plunder. Despite often being enemies, trade with the Romans in horses, furs and slaves was particularly lucrative.

ABOVE A silver plaque featuring a yak, found in Mongolia, where some believe the Huns originated

The societal structure of the Huns before the 430s CE is difficult to determine. Marcellinus described them as having no kings and being led by "primates". Yet, according to Kim, the Huns existed in an ordered society. The empire was governed by a 'high king' at the imperial centre on the Hungarian Steppe; surrounding him was a collection of lesser or 'wise kings' who had responsibility over a certain area. He says that to "create a clear physical distinction between the nobility and general populace," the Huns used the gruesome practice of artificial cranial deformation, where the skull is lengthened by binding it during childhood.

Very little remains of the culture of the Huns. Only three words and some names exist of their language, and little is known of their religion besides the practice of divination and polygamy among the nobility. The only artefacts that have been recovered are a few copper and bronze cauldrons (most likely used for boiling meat, carrying water or for religious use) and the elaborate gold diadems of Hunnic women and gold plaques that men wore on their clothing.

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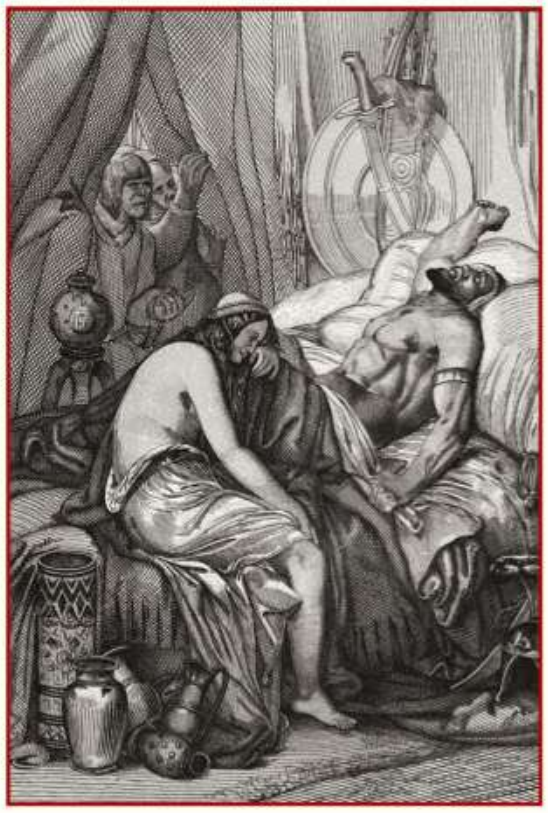
DID ILDICO KILL ATTILA?

The mystery over the death of the great Hun leader has yet to be solved...

Historian John Man wrote about Ildico that "seldom has a girl become so famous for doing nothing". The bride of Attila, thought to have been a Germanic princess (possibly named Hildegunde in her native tongue) was likely offered to the Hunnic ruler as a form of tribute. The lost record of the events by Priscus, copied by Jordanes, tells us that Attila died from a nosebleed on the night of his wedding to Ildico having fallen asleep on his back, suffocating on his own blood as it pooled in his throat.

Later chronicles, finding this explanation unconvincing or perhaps just unsatisfactory for such an iconic figure of history, sought alternative explanations, with the finger of blame often falling on Ildico. Had her people been wronged by the Huns and she had taken her revenge? Was she deliberately sent to assassinate the king? While there were no visible wounds, was there a dagger involved? Perhaps she used poison? In any event, she became a source of inspiration for Germanic and Nordic legends, often being portrayed as Attila's killer in such tales.

We just don't have the evidence to know for sure, but Man theorises that a condition caused by alcoholism known as portal hypertension, which causes varicose veins in the gullet, may have been the explanation. This is very much in line with Priscus' version of Attila's death: with this condition veins can burst without warning and can fill the lungs with blood. If the ancient record is accurate, the symptoms appear similar.



The Huns depicted attacking a Roman town, by Georges Rochegrosse

The Huns vs the Romans

After their arrival on the Danube in 376 CE, the Huns had an increasingly violent and complicated relationship with Europe's other great empire, the Romans. By the 4th century, the Roman Empire had split in two: the Western Empire based in Rome and the Eastern Empire based in Constantinople.

Living in eastern Europe, the Huns had little direct contact with the Western Empire, yet played a major role in its decline in the 5th century. As Kim states, the arrival of the Huns "shifted the geo-political situation enormously" in Europe. Their invasion forced the many Germanic and steppe tribes to find sanctuary within the Western Empire, known as the Great Migration. Around 80,000 Visigoths under the leadership of Fritigern were welcomed into the empire by Emperor Valens in 376 CE. Likewise, the Vandals and Suebi were forced to seek shelter in Roman Spain and North Africa.

The Western Empire struggled to cope with this influx. After suffering abuse by Roman administrators, the Visigoths rose up and launched the First Gothic War (376 CE - 382 CE), killing Emperor Valens at the Battle of Adrianople in 378 CE. In 410 CE the Visigoths, led by King Alaric, sacked Rome for the first time in its history. Sustained migrations, small wars and sackings such as this saw the Western Empire finally collapse in 476 CE.

The Eastern Empire, the more stable of the two, had a more direct relationship with the Huns. After defeating the Germanic tribes the Huns were initially allies, or foederati, of the Eastern Romans, protecting their borders from 'barbarians'. But the riches of the empire were impossible to resist and in 395 CE the Huns launched their first campaign against the Romans, overrunning Thrace, Syria and Armenia and pillaging cities like Antioch. The invasion was not a land-grab but more about plunder, setting the pattern for future relations between the Huns and Constantinople. Successive Eastern Emperors prevented Hunnic invasions with the promise of annual tribute in gold. This relationship of plunder, treaties and the selling of prisoners made the Huns both hugely wealthy and the largest threat to the Roman Empire.

The rise of Attila

By 432 CE, the Hunnic Empire stretched from the Alps to the Caspian Sea and had been unified under the leadership of Rugila. When Rugila died in 434 CE, he was succeeded by his nephews Bleda and Attila, who ruled as joint kings. Their first major action was the Treaty of Margus with the Eastern Empire in 435 CE, which promised an annual tribute of 700lb (317kg) of gold. But the Romans seemingly failed to pay this tribute and Attila launched his first invasion, crossing the Danube in 441 CE and sacking several cities, including Singidunum (Belgrade). Following a brief ceasefire in 442 CE, during which the Romans recalled their forces from the west, Attila invaded again in 443 CE. This time he pushed them all the way back to Constantinople, where only the city's insurmountable walls forced him to stop, but not without annihilating the remnants of the Roman army in Gallipoli. His victory not only earned Attila 6,000lb (2,721kg) of gold in arrears and a tripling of the annual tribute to 2,100lb (953kg), it also earned him the name Flagellum Dei, 'The Scourge of God'.

After the war, Attila transformed the society of the Huns. In 445 CE he killed Bleda and ruled as an autocrat, administering the empire through Logades, or 'picked men', who collected and governed the food and tribute of subject peoples. The vast sums of Roman gold allowed the Huns to abandon nomadism and settle on the Hungarian Plain as pastoralists, living in wooden houses built by subject peoples like the Goths.

RIGHT A Roman embassy meets Attila outside the city to negotiate with the Hunnic ruler

BELOW The Huns laying siege to the city of Aquileia in 452 CE, under the leadership of Attila

"Warfare proved lucrative for the Huns," says historian John Simmons, "but wealth apparently was not their only objective. Attila and his army seemed genuinely to enjoy warfare – the rigours and rewards of military life were more appealing to them than farming or attending livestock."

Attila launched his second Roman campaign in 447 CE, defeating the Eastern Empire's forces at the Utus River and desecrating the Balkan provinces before descending into Greece, where he was finally stopped at Thermopylae. It took three years to negotiate a peace with Eastern Emperor Theodosius II, which concluded with the Romans evacuating a wide stretch of territory south of the Danube.

It was during these peace talks that Priscus of Panium, a Roman historian and delegate, met Attila in Walachia in 449 CE. He described him in his *History* as "a short squat man with a large head, deep-set eyes, flat nose and a thin beard" who ate only meat and dined off wooden plates, despite the rest of his court using silver.

Attila's fortunes changed following his invasion of Gaul in 451 CE. Honoria, sister of Western Emperor Valentinian III, had sent Attila a ring and asked him to save her from a forced marriage in 450 CE; Atilla claimed her as a wife and demanded half the empire as her dowry. He invaded Gaul the following year, targeting the capital of the Visigoths, Toulouse. But the Roman General Aetius had agreed an alliance with the Visigoth king, Theodoric II, uniting the Roman and Gothic armies. Atilla faced their Roman-Gothic army at the Battle of the Catalaunian Plains on 20 June 451 CE. It was his first and only defeat and forced him to retire from Gaul.

Atilla invaded Italy the following year, plundering the cities of Padua, Bergamo, Verona and Milan, through which he inadvertently created the city of Venice by forcing Italians to flee to the marshes. He was prevented from attacking Rome following a plea from Pope Leo I that he spare the city, after which the Huns were forced to withdraw from Italy due to famine and plague.

Atilla had not long returned to the Hungarian Plains when he died. In 453 CE he married a woman named Ildico and, if Priscus and Jordanes are to be believed, died on his wedding night after giving himself up to "excessive joy at his wedding." He was placed in three coffins of gold, silver and iron and buried under a running river. Those who buried him were killed so his resting place would never be revealed.

> "His bloody victory not only earned Attila 6,000lb of gold, it also earned him the name Flagellum Dei, 'the Scourge of God'"

The end of the Huns

After Attila's death the Hunnic empire was divided among his three sons – Dengizich, Ellac and Ernakh – who immediately began bickering among themselves.

Without Attila's fearsome reputation to keep them in line, many of the Huns' subjects rebelled. "Ardaric, King of the Gepidae, became enraged because so many nations were being treated like slaves of the basest condition, and was the first to rise against the sons of Attila," wrote Jordanes. In 454 CE, Ardaric led an army of Gepidae, Ostrogoths and Heruli to victory against the Huns at the Battle of Nedao, where Ellac was killed. This great victory inspired other subjects of the Huns to revolt: Dengizich was forced from power in the west by the Ostrogoths and Western Romans, the Amali Goths under Valamir rebelled in the East, and the Eastern Romans secured their Danube border.

With no subject peoples or Roman tribute, the Huns rapidly disappeared from Europe. No mention of them, their settlements or their activities is made after 469 CE and most historians agree that the Huns were absorbed into the cultures of their former subjects and other ethnic groups, most likely the Bulgars.

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HISTORY'S WORST

HURRICANES

Six of the deadliest hurricanes to ravage the Atlantic and Pacific

Written by Callum McKelvie

The Atlantic hurricane season officially began on 1 June, with numerous predictions as to the ferocity and intensity of forthcoming storms inundating the online weather pages. To many readers the names 'Katrina' and 'Sandy' will conjure images of widespread devastation, with shocking news footage of flooded streets and thousands of buildings reduced to rubble. Yet these are just two of the many hurricanes that have swept across the Atlantic and Pacific over the centuries.

But just what is a hurricane? The UK's Met Office defines them as: "An area of low pressure over tropical or sub-tropical waters, with organised convection (ie thunderstorm activity) and sustained winds near the surface of at least 74mph (and stronger gusts) circulating either anti-clockwise (in the northern hemisphere) or clockwise (in the southern hemisphere)."

Over the centuries, these lethal weather phenomena have been responsible for the devastation of large areas of North America, South America, the Caribbean and numerous other countries. They have also resulted in a colossal loss of life, with a single hurricane capable of causing tens of thousands of deaths. Despite an ever-growing understanding of meteorology and an increased ability to spot and identify these storms far earlier, they remain incredibly deadly. From the unnamed storm which devastated huge swathes of the Caribbean in 1780, to the horrifying Hurricane Mitch in 1998, we take a look at history's deadliest hurricanes.

HMS Hector and HMS Bristol during the Great Hurricane of 1780

GREAT HURRICANE

Year: 1780

Location: Lesser Antilles, Bermuda, Puerto Rico, Hispaniola and areas of North America

The deadliest hurricane ever recorded, the Great Hurricane of 1780, swept across the Caribbean and by its end was responsible for the deaths of over 20,000 people. At the time there was a concentration of European naval forces in the Caribbean due to the ongoing American Revolution. As a result, alongside huge numbers of civilians, both the British and French navies sustained substantial losses. The French were estimated to have lost around 40 ships and 4,000 sailors. One British ship lost at sea during the hurricane was the HMS Deal Castle, evocatively depicted in John Thomas Serres' painting, shown here on the left.

HMS Deal Castle was wrecked during the Great Hurricane

On land, the devastation was just as horrifying. In St Lucia, it was reported that just two of all the houses on the island remained standing following the storm's destruction. Stories of the bark having been stripped from the trees have led meteorologists to speculate that the winds may have been in excess of 200mph. Author and hurricane expert Wayne Neely says: "Only hurricane Mitch in 1998 can barely approach the Great Hurricane of 1780 in terms of lives lost."

In 1873, French geographer and author Elisée Reclus described the havoc caused by the storm in *The Ocean, Atmosphere, and Life*: "Starting from Barbados, where neither trees nor dwellings were left standing, it caused and English fleet Anchored of St Lucia to disappear and completely ravaged this island, where 6,000 were crushed under the ruins."

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LABOR DAY HURRICANE

Year: 1935
Location: Florida, United States

On the evening of 2 September 1935, Labor Day, a category five hurricane made landfall in the Florida Keys area. The storm had formed on the 29th in the middle of the Atlantic when a tropical depression caused it to intensify into an extremely powerful hurricane. This hurricane would be responsible for the deaths of some 423 people and cause $100 million worth of damage. Decades later, it was described by Professor Kerry Emanuel, a meteorologist and climate scientist, as "the most intense hurricane ever to have struck the US." The devastating storm is said to have had the lowest barometric pressure ever recorded on land in the United States, with sustained winds of up to 185mph.

During the 1930s the Florida Keys was home to a large number of World War I veterans, many of whom had been hired by the Florida Emergency Relief Administration in the aftermath of the Great Depression. Living in camps, they were engaged in the construction of the Overseas Highway linking the chain of islands. When it was clear that the hurricane was headed for the Keys, the government sent a rescue train to try and evacuate as many people as possible. However, the train was too late and the storm blew it off the tracks.

One of the many involved in the rescue operation was *For Whom The Bell Tolls* author Ernest Hemingway, who blamed the government for the deaths of the veterans. He would express his anger in an article for the socialist magazine *New Masses*, entitled: *Who Murdered the Vets?* Although the devastation caused by the Labor Day hurricane does not come close to others included here, it was nonetheless a horrifying natural disaster and its victims deserve to be remembered.

This train, sent to evacuate men on Lower Matecumbe Key, was blown off the tracks

HURRICANE MITCH

Year: 1998
Location: Central America (primarily Honduras and Nicaragua)

The second-deadliest hurricane on record, following 1780's Great Hurricane, Mitch struck Central America in late October 1998 with devastating force. A category five hurricane, at its peak Mitch saw winds of 180mph and caused a number of catastrophic landslides and widespread flooding. Mark C Mastin of the US Geological Survey notes that: "Precipitation in some areas of Honduras exceeded 450mm in 24 hours and more than 800mm in three days. This caused record peak flows in many rivers."

The property damage caused by Hurricane Mitch was estimated at $6 billion. In Honduras, government officials stated that the storm had destroyed 50 years of economic development, while the National Hurricane Centre declared that the country's "entire infrastructure" had been obliterated. In 2000, this same organisation updated its previous casualty estimates from the hurricane and stated that 9,086 people had been killed, with 9,191 still missing. With a death toll of over 10,000 it is one of the deadliest and most shocking hurricanes on record.

HURRICANE FIFI-ORLENE

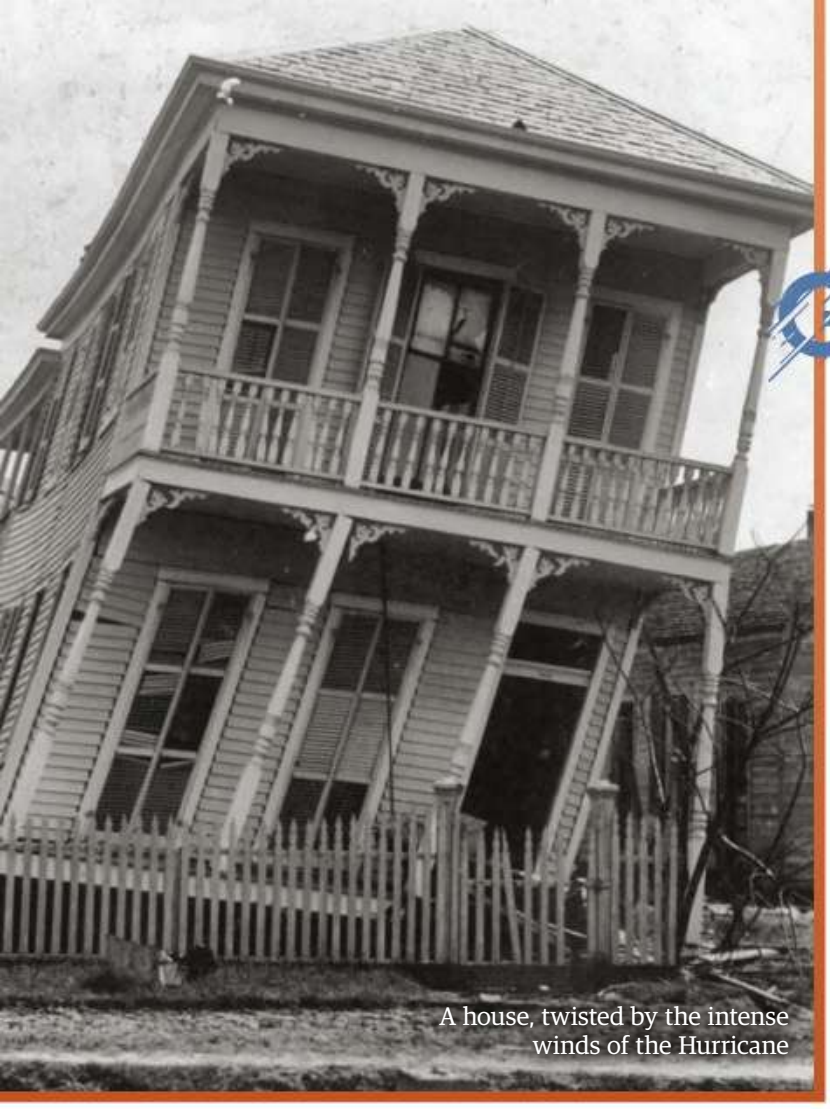
A row of submerged houses following Hurricane Fifi-Orlene

Year: 1974
Location: Central America (Puerto Rico, Honduras, Nicargua, Guatemala and others)

The third-deadliest Atlantic hurricane in history, Fifi-Orlene hit Central America in September 1974, bringing with it a wave of devastation when a tropical depression caused the storm to intensify into a hurricane. The majority of the destruction occurred in Honduras, with flash flooding resulting in as many as 2,000 to 5,000 deaths in one night. In the first 12 hours of Hurricane Fifi-Orlene making landfall the International Red Cross estimated that between 800 and 1,500 people died. The city of Choloma lost 2,300 of its inhabitants when the hurricane caused a dam to give way, leading to catastrophic flooding. As well as the high death toll, the Honduran government estimated that between 350,000 and 500,000 people were left homeless.

The hurricane continued on to Belize, where winds up to 109mph were recorded, meaning that was the most powerful hurricane to have hit the country since 1961's Hattie. The storm finally reached the eastern Pacific, where it was renamed as Tropical Storm Orlene, only briefly once more achieving hurricane strength. It made landfall on the northwest coast of Mexico, before finally dissipating.

The total death toll was initially estimated to have exceeded 10,000, with later figures ranging between 5,032 and 8,100. The hurricane was also estimated to have caused damage totalling nearly $2 billion. Due to the almost unprecedented devastation, the name Fifi was taken off the cyclical list of hurricane names and has not been used since.



A house, twisted by the intense winds of the Hurricane

GALVESTON HURRICANE

Year: 1900

Location: Texas, United States

Galveston was once considered the grandest town in Texas, with a busy shipping port and a population of some 37,000. However, this all changed in one night in 1900 when a hurricane annihilated the town. Despite occurring over a century ago, the Galveston Hurricane is still considered the deadliest natural disaster in the history of the United States.

As with many of the hurricanes on this list, communication was poor and despite many knowing of the oncoming storm, the magnitude and sheer ferocity was still a shock. At one point a storm surge (a change in sea level caused by a storm) with an estimated height of nearly five metres swept over the town. In total, some 3,600 buildings were destroyed and 6,000-12,000 people (with 8,000 the generally accepted figure) are estimated to have died on Galveston island, There were thousands more casualties (possibly between 4,000-6,000) on the mainland.

Due to the sheer number of dead bodies, they could not all be buried individually. Instead, they were weighted, placed on barges, taken to the Gulf of Mexico and buried at sea. However some soon floated ashore, so huge funeral pyres were constructed to better dispose of the remains. In terms of physical damage, the total estimated cost of property lost or destroyed was $30 million.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC HURRICANE

Year: 1930

Location: Dominican Republic, Haiti, Cuba, United States

The 1930 Dominican Republic Hurricane is also known as 'Hurricane San Zenon', due to the custom of naming hurricanes according to the saint's day on which they struck. Despite being relatively small compared to other hurricanes on this list, it was a category four cyclone and therefore incredibly intense. Although the 1930 Atlantic Hurricane season was relatively quiet, with only two tropical storms forming, the ferocity of this particular storm meant that it would make history as one of the deadliest hurricanes of all time – responsible for the deaths of anywhere between 2,000 and 8,000 people.

By the time the San Zenon hurricane made landfall in the Dominican Republic in early September, it had developed winds of up to 150mph. In the capital Santo Domingo, the hurricane hit with terrifying ferocity and it was estimated that around half of the city was completely destroyed by the ferocious winds. Roughly 70 percent of the buildings inside the city walls experienced damage, if not total destruction, with almost a 100 percent of those directly outside likewise being damaged. The relief effort was personally organised by President Rafael Leónidas Trujillo, and almost 100 years later Hurricane San Zenon remains the fifth-deadliest on record.

ABOVE
Up to 70 percent of the buildings in Santo Domingo were damaged

BELOW
A man attempts to help a tree during Hurricane Carol in 1954

All images: © Alamy, © Getty Images

Battle of the Five Kings

Michael Livingston explains how the Battle of Crécy was a turning point in the Hundred Years' War

Interview by Jonathan Gordon

EXPERT BIO

MICHAEL LIVINGSTON

An award-winning historical author and professor at The Citadel, the military college of South Carolina, Livingston has written books such as *Medieval Warfare: A Reader* and *Never Greater Slaughter.*

©Michael Livingston

In 1346, still relatively early in the series of conflicts between England and France that we call the Hundred Years' War, the forces of King Edward III of England and King Philip VI of France (Philippe to the French) met at Crécy-en-Ponthieu, just south of Calais. While the English were greatly outnumbered, their defensive position and use of the longbow proved decisive. It was an important turning point in the conflict, with five present or future kings taking the field. We discuss the importance of this battle with Michael Livingston and the research he's done for his new book, *Crécy: Battle of Five Kings*.

RIGHT Many sources claim that Edward the Black Prince, 16, had to be rescued after getting himself captured in the melee

BELOW King Edward's forces had cut a swathe through north-western France in a brutal campaign before arriving at Crécy

Could you walk us through the build up to the Battle of Crécy?

When King Edward III landed his army in France in July 1346 – only a dozen or so miles from what would become Utah Beach in June 1944 – he was determined to press his claim to the throne of France. After some initial successes, including the sacking of Caen, he was attempting to march towards the Low Countries when the French king, Philippe VI, prevented him from crossing the River Seine. Edward was forced to march almost to the walls of Paris before he managed a crossing at Poissy in mid-August. Marching north with all speed to reach allies he believed to be besieging Béthune, he was nearly trapped again when Philippe prevented a crossing of the Somme. The desperate English crossing of that river on 24 August via a low-tide ford, a remarkable fight called the Battle of Blanchetaque, would be far better known in history were it not overshadowed by the fact that on 26 August the English army was at last chased down by Philippe and a much larger coalition force that could count four kings among its leadership. The English took position beside the Forest of Crécy, expertly using the terrain to their advantage, and over the course of the two-day Battle of Crécy, as it came to be known, they won an enormous victory.

Where would you place the battle in terms of its importance to the Hundred Years' War?

In terms of fame, I suspect Crécy is the second-most well-known battle of the period, just behind the Battle of Agincourt in 1415 (incidentally the subject of a book I'm writing now). We can and should talk about the on-the-ground importance of the astonishing English victory at Crécy, which enabled the subsequent taking of Calais and the extraordinary impacts that this had on both sides of the Channel. But we shouldn't ignore the impact of that fame, too: Crécy quickly acquired a kind of mythical status not just at home but also abroad. This was, as I hint in my book's subtitle *Battle of Five Kings*, a battle ▶

One could argue that it was an engagement that put England 'on the map'

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Graphics: © Getty Images

ABOVE A victory for France at Crécy could have ended the Hundred Years' War less than a decade after it began

BELOW King John of Bohemia, also known as John the Blind, was famously killed at Crécy having tied his horse to one of his men to lead him into a charge

RIGHT After victory the English knights chased down French noblemen from the field to hold for ransom

of international scope with international repercussions. One could argue, in fact, that it was an engagement that put England 'on the map' as a power to be reckoned with in European affairs.

What were the key events of the battle?

The first key was the English position, which was an excellent fit to the tactics their army was best suited to execute. We don't know the names of the English scouts that first found the eventual battle site, but they earned their pay and then some. The French might still have won – they certainly had the numbers to do so – but their overconfidence led to haphazard initial attacks and Philippe's eventual complete loss of command and control. It got really bad really quick. Even so, the French almost snatched victory from the jaws of defeat, thanks to Edward's son, the Prince of Wales.

What role did the Black Prince, Edward of Woodstock, play in the battle?

The Prince of Wales was 16 years old when his father put him in charge of the front line at Crécy. Several veteran lords stood alongside him to try to keep him free from harm, but the point was to show the young man's ability to fight and take command, just as it would be six decades later when Prince Hal – the future Henry V – took command of a third of his father's army at the Battle of Shrewsbury at the same age. The English later tried to paint a picture of the Black Prince's prowess at Crécy: the idea that his father refused to send him help so that the boy could "earn his spurs" as a knight is one of the most famous scenes of the engagement. But other sources – most other sources – tell a very different tale. The young prince, we think, pressed too far from the English lines and was captured in the melee. Only a panicked fight from the English managed to rescue him and return him to safety.

What were the biggest consequences of the conflict?

An easy consequence is the counter-factual, especially given what we now know about the mid-battle capture of the Black Prince. For that brief moment, everything hung in the balance. If the French had taken him from the field, the Hundred Years' War might've ended there and then. In terms of what did happen, the greatest consequence is undoubtedly Calais. The resounding victory of the English not only freed them up to besiege that jewel in the French crown, but it also weakened the French king enough that he couldn't muster the strength to aid the city. And the English capture of that port city, so powerfully envisioned by Rodin's *Burghers of Calais*, played an enormous role in the history of England moving forward.

What have been some of the misconceptions around the battle?

Almost every famous story of Crécy turns out to have been significantly misunderstood. I've already mentioned how the stories most people know about the Black Prince seem more in line with propaganda spin than the unvarnished truth. We also have a far better understanding of the death of the blind King John of Bohemia at the battle, the massacre of the Genoese crossbowmen, and much else. But the biggest misconception in my eyes, because it has the biggest ramifications on how we understand what happened, has been the fact that the battle probably didn't occur where everyone thinks it did. I make the case, backed by a lot of evidence, that it happened three-and-a-half miles to the south. Because I believe a battle is its ground, this changes everything.

What drew you to this battle to write about it in such detail?

I certainly didn't expect to write about it so much! When I first visited the traditional site of the battle many years ago, I expected to have a passive role in simply receiving the information about what everyone said had happened there. It's one of the most famous battles in history, so the idea that there would be much more to say about it didn't even cross my mind. Yet walking around the site quickly made evident how little the stories were lining up with the terrain and the most common-sense expectations of warfare. Crécy became a puzzle and I'm someone who will always – always! – pick up the puzzle on the table.

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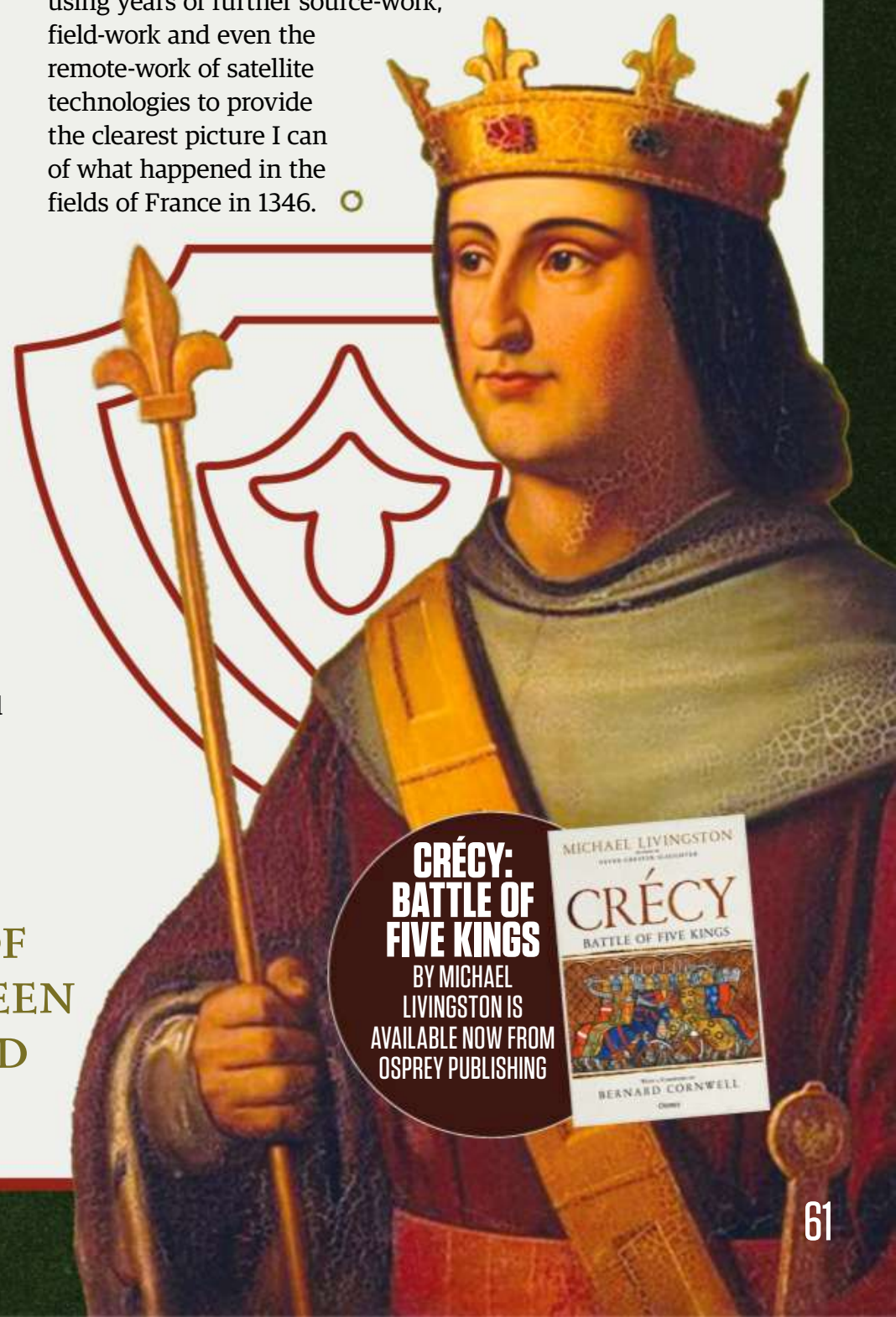
ABOVE King Edward depicted praying in his tent the night before the Battle of Crécy

How did you go about researching and digging deeper into the conflict?

In 2015, a colleague and I published a casebook that collected over 80 sources about the battle written before the year 1400. A great many of these were previously unknown, ignored or very poorly translated. Getting these materials out to fellow researchers was important, but I'd be lying if I didn't say that it was also an enormous part of my own work process! *Crécy: Battle of Five Kings* absolutely builds on that foundation, using years of further source-work, field-work and even the remote-work of satellite technologies to provide the clearest picture I can of what happened in the fields of France in 1346.

BELOW King Philip VI was badly wounded at Crécy and is believed to have narrowly escaped capture



CRÉCY: BATTLE OF FIVE KINGS BY MICHAEL LIVINGSTON IS AVAILABLE NOW FROM OSPREY PUBLISHING

> Almost every famous story of Crécy turns out to have been significantly misunderstood

FATHER'S DAY GIFT GUIDE

Take a look at this selection of gifts ideal for dads everywhere

AIRFIX SMALL STARTER SET SUPERMARINE SPITFIRE MK.VC

£11.99 **uk.airfix.com**

For military and model-making fans alike, Airfix has transformed one of the most famous aircraft that has ever taken to the skies – the Supermarine Spitfire inter-war seaplane – into a new build-and-paint starter set. The set includes child-friendly paints, brushes and glues, along with a new 'shadow-effect' mount stand.

WORLD OF WARSHIPS Free worldofwarships.eu

World of Warships is a free-to-play naval action, massively multiplayer online (MMO) game with a focus on the epic large-scale sea battles of the first half of the 20th century. To celebrate Father's Day, *World of Warships* is giving you the chance to start your naval career with the following invite code: BOOM.

By entering the code at playships.eu and creating your account, you'll receive digital gifts that will be delivered to your port. The invite code is only available for new players that do not have a Wargaming.net ID and must be used prior to account creation.

CLASSIC BATTLEFIELD TOURS From £1,250 classicbattlefieldtours.com

Classic Battlefield Tours revisits some of the most interesting and defining moments in UK military history, including a cross-country tour to explore the English Civil War and a tour of Scotland's battlefields and stunning scenery. Standard tours are designed for groups of up to 15 people, unless otherwise stated. Tours are bespoke for groups, families or individuals, which can be tailor-made to discover a particular period and location of military history. Classic Battlefield Tours also offer European tours, such as a tour focused on the Battle of Waterloo in Belgium, and shorter experiences such as exploring Bisley Shooting Ground.

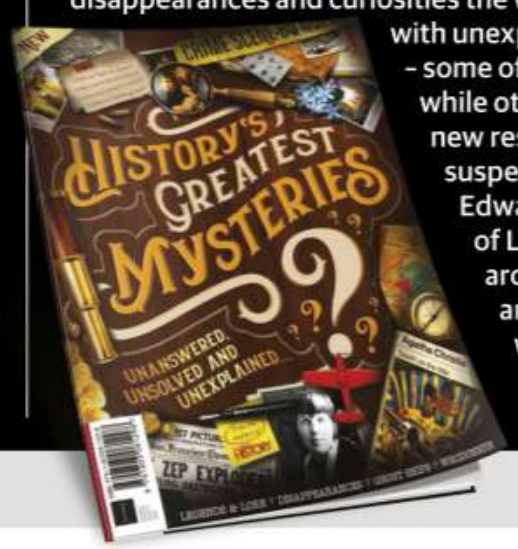
SUBSCRIBE TO HISTORY OF WAR

From £2.62 per issue **magazinesdirect.com**

Now is a great time to subscribe to **All About History**, of course, with the massive savings you'll get on the cover price, not to mention the fact it gets delivered directly to your door so you'll never miss an issue. It makes for a nice Father's Day gift, too – as does our sister title *History Of War*. For expert analysis of the most important battles, first-hand insight from veterans into life on the front lines, and incredible stories of bravery and daring every issue, *History Of War* is an inspiring and powerful read. And it's packed with incredible images, infographics and more. It's a great Father's Day gift idea.

HISTORY'S GREATEST MYSTERIES (4TH EDITION) £12.99 magazinesdirect.com

From the Princes in the Tower to the fate of aviator Amelia Earhart, *History's Greatest Mysteries* brings you some of the most fascinating unsolved crimes, disappearances and curiosities the world has ever known. History is littered with unexplained stories and curious missing tales – some of these mysteries may never be solved, while others may yet be turned on their head by new research and discoveries. Learn who was suspected of murdering the deposed King Edward V and his brother Richard in the Tower of London, find out why there is so much doubt around what really killed Ludwig II of Bavaria, analyse the Jack the Ripper murders, learn what happened to the missing Roanoke Colony in North America, and so much more in this must-read bookazine.



QUICKBUILD FORD MUSTANG GT

£14.99 **uk.airfix.com**

The QUICKBUILD Ford Mustang GT is a great gift for car lovers and model enthusiasts alike. The pre-coloured pieces simply push together, with no need for glue, to build an impressive model which can then be decorated with the included self-adhesive stickers. Upon completing the construction of the model each of the building blocks blends seamlessly together, creating a fantastic replica of this iconic muscle car.

GREAT BRITISH HISTORY MAP

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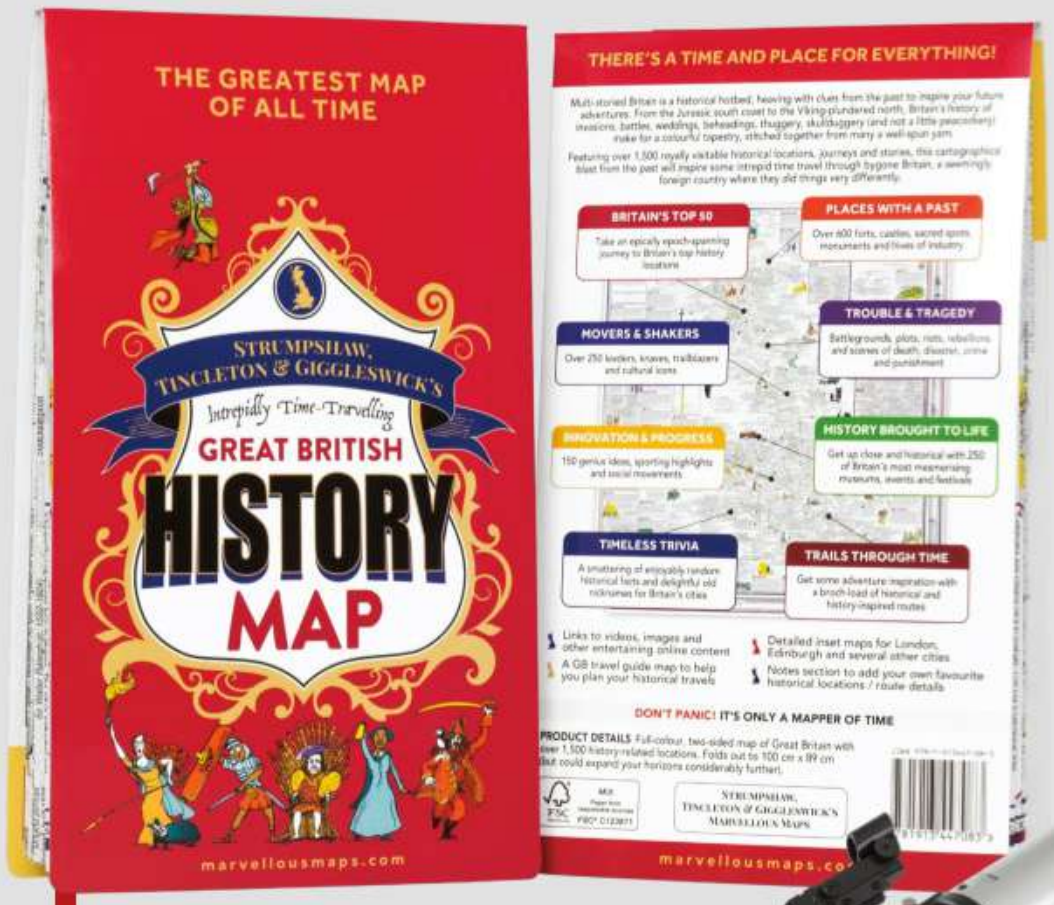
Perfect for history buff dads! Multi-storied Britain is a historical hotbed, heaving with clues from the past to inspire your future adventures. The history-centric map features over 1,500 royally visitable historical locations, journeys and stories – it's a cartographical blast from the past that will inspire some intrepid time travel through bygone Britain.



SAVE 10% WITH THE EXCLUSIVE CODE: DADSHISTORY

ALIEN ABDUCTION LAMP

£99 **abductionlamp.com**

The Alien Abduction Lamp is more than just a lamp, it's an eye-catching accessory that adds a quirky touch of fun to any space. If your dad's desk is looking a little drab and it needs some new life, this lamp is full of it – but it's not life as we know it. Aboard the flying saucer lamp is an LED light source, glow-in-the-dark alien pilots, a scratch-resistant acrylic tractor-beam, USB connection and, most importantly, a cartoon bovine abductee. The Alien Abduction Lamp is more than just a lamp, it's a work of art and the perfect gift for any sci-fi enthusiast.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY FOR POPULAR ASTRONOMY

£25 per year (UK) **popastro.com**

A membership to the Society for Popular Astronomy (SPA) would be a great gift for stargazers this Father's Day. Membership to the SPA includes a bi-monthly copy of its unique magazine – *Popular Astronomy* – for astronomy and space news, observational guides and more. The SPA also offers meetings (both in-person and virtually), events and courses for budding astronomers. There are also SPA experts on hand for astronomy help and advice.

STARSENSE EXPLORER LT 114AZ

$239.95 **celestron.com**

Celestron has reinvented the manual telescope with StarSense Explorer – the first telescope that uses patented sky recognition technology and your smartphone to analyse the night sky and calculate its position in real-time. StarSense Explorer is ideal for beginners thanks to the app's user-friendly interface and detailed tutorials – it's like having your own personal tour guide of the night sky. With StarSense Explorer, simply dock your phone, launch the app and explore the Universe. Locating objects has never been easier, faster or more accurate. After you align your phone to the telescope's optics, StarSense Explorer generates a list of all the best celestial objects currently visible and can guide you to their location. Even if you live in a light-polluted city location, StarSense Explorer is advanced enough to pick out a whole range of celestial objects, including other planets, star clusters and nebulae. The entire telescope kit weighs around 5kg, so it's perfectly portable and easy to bring anywhere.

STARSENSE EXPLORER DX 102AZ

£449.99 **celestron.com**

Much like Celestron's StarSense Explorer LT 114AZ, the DX 102AZ works harmoniously with your smartphone to track and analyse overhead star patterns and calculate your exact position. With a large 102mm objective lens, this telescope has enough light-gathering ability to bring out impressive detail in celestial objects. You can expect sharp, bright views of Jupiter's four Galilean moons, its cloud bands and Great Red Spot, the rings of Saturn and much more. The telescope also includes a 90-degree erect image diagonal, so you can use it during the day to view wildlife and landscapes. This telescope also comes with an ultra-stable altazimuth mount that provides a sturdy foundation for StarSense Explorer DX. Slip clutches and geared slow-motion controls in both axes help you move the telescope smoothly and zero in your target.

Greatest Battles

BATTLE OF MALAKOFF

SEVASTOPOL, CRIMEA, 8 SEPT 1855

Written by William E Welsh

Colonel Eduard Totleben, a gifted Russian military engineer trained at the prestigious School of Engineering in Saint Petersburg, arrived in Sevastopol in summer, 1854, to oversee the improvement of the Black Sea port's outdated defences. He was appalled at what he found. Little had been done over the past several decades to improve the city's landward defences. Yet at the outset of the Crimean War it was just such a threat that had rapidly materialised when the British and French fleets suddenly appeared in the Black Sea, overwhelming the Russian Black Sea Fleet.

The old town of Sevastopol and the suburb of Karabel, where the dockyards and naval barracks were located, were protected on the landward side by a four-metre stone wall, but it was not strong enough to withstand a sustained artillery bombardment.

Russian reinforcements stand ready to defend bastions in the curtain wall during the final phase of the siege

© Alamy

When it became apparent in July 1854 that large British and French armies planned to land on the Crimean Peninsula and strike out overland to capture the port, Totleben went to work to ensure the city's defences could withstand a siege.

To his astonishment, Totleben found that the city's arsenal contained neither sufficient building materials nor tools to improve the defences. He requested that these items be shipped to Sevastopol as quickly as possible. He also discovered that only about half of the cannon in the arsenal were serviceable. Added to all this, the garrison of 5,000 soldiers and 10,000 sailors in the city had almost no combat experience.

The determined engineer soon had the men, women and children of the city, as well as the soldiers and sailors of the garrison, toiling day and night to improve the city's defences. They assembled fascines and gabions, dug trenches and constructed booby traps. The construction work did not stop when the British, French, Sardinians, and Turks arrived before the walls of the city in late September, and the work continued unabated even as enemy shells began to fall on the city.

ALLIES INVADE THE CRIMEA

Totleben reported to vice admirals Pavel Nachimov and Vladimir Kornilov of the Black Sea Fleet. Although the admirals served as co-commanders of the Sevastopol garrison, General Prince Alexander Menshikov commanded the 37,000 Russian troops in the western Crimea whose job it would be to contest the Allies advance once they landed. The Allied fleet arrived in Calamita Bay on 13 September and began slowly landing troops at the port of Eupatoria just 65km north of Sevastopol.

Menshikov proved unable to stop the advance of the Allied army. On 20 September he suffered a tactical defeat in the Battle of Alma ten miles south of where the Allies landed. He withdrew inland to save his army from destruction, thereby leaving the road to Sevastopol wide open.

The British and French armies established new supply bases at the tip of the Crimean Peninsula in October that were in close proximity to their siege lines. The new British base was at Balaclava and the French base at Kamiesh. Russian reinforcements arriving from the Danubian front under General Pavel Liprandi on 25 October attacked the British forces defending their supply corridor to Balaclava. The battle was a draw, and the Russians withdrew.

SIEGE OF SEVASTOPOL

While the Russian forces in the field attempted to distract the Allies, the commanders of the garrison took steps to prevent the Allied fleet from entering Sevastopol Bay. At Totleben's suggestion, the Russian admirals sank seven of their ships in the mouth of the bay on 23 September. The admirals assigned the sailors from the destroyed ships to man the city's artillery batteries. With the addition of more soldiers and sailors, the city's garrison doubled in size to 31,000 troops.

Most defence construction occurred on the south side of the city. On the north, the city was protected by a crescent-shaped series of fortifications replete with artillery batteries. Sailors and marines had offloaded naval guns from the Russian warships before they were sunk, and these were employed in defence of the curtain wall and bastions.

The southern forts and bastions were arrayed at intervals along the existing curtain walls that enclosed the Old Town and the Karabel suburb on the south side of Sevastopol Bay. It was here that Totleben brought his genius to bear. He doubled the number of bastions with batteries on the south walls from three to six. The southeast side was defended by the first three bastions, the second and third of which were named, respectively, the Little Redan and the Great Redan. The Malakoff fort, an enclosed redoubt, was situated between the two redans on the highest ground of the southern defences. The Malakoff was the key to the southern defences of the city because its gun emplacements were at a higher elevation than the other five bastions. The curtain wall defending the southwest approaches to the city were covered by bastions four through six, which the Russians had named the Flagstaff, Central and Quarantine bastions.

FitzRoy Somerset, Lord Raglan, commanding the British forces, conferred with General Francois Canrobert, the leader of the French forces, and together they agreed to lay siege to the city from the south. They entrenched on the uplands south of the city, which the Russians had left unfortified.

French Zouaves engage in bloody hand-to-hand fighting with Russian defenders at the Malakoff redoubt

© Alamy

The Russians mounted 220 guns in defence of the south side of the city. In contrast, the Allies initially had just 126 guns; however, the Allied fleet in the Black Sea repeatedly delivered more guns to the expeditionary forces over the course of the long siege. The Allies began the first of what would be six bombardments of the Russian lines on 17 October, but the Russians won the first exchange when they silenced two French ordnance magazines.

FRENCH ARMY HEAVILY REINFORCED

The Allies launched no major assaults during the winter. British forces fell to 15,000 troops due to exposure, starvation and disease, which was nearly half of the British expeditionary force's original numbers. French Emperor Louis-Napoleon III more than made up for the shortfall, though, by sending 83,000 fresh troops to augment the Armee d'Orient in the first half of 1855. Meanwhile, Totleben improved the Russian defences by overseeing the construction of outerworks that protected the Malakoff and the Great Redan.

With additional French forces arriving, the French took responsibility for the left and right of the siege works, while the British held the centre of the line. The French received a new commander in May when General Aimable Pelissier arrived to replace Canrobert, whose health was rapidly failing. Upon assuming command, Pelissier pledged to capture the Mamelon.

Pelissier made good on his promise. By early summer the Franco-British army had amassed 550 guns. The French shelled the Mamelon and White Works on 6 June and then launched a furious assault against the positions. The officers conducting the assault had explicit orders only to secure the Mamelon and not to continue their advance against the Malakoff. The French streamed forward without scaling ladders. Despite the Russians firing down on them at point-blank range from the Mamelon hilltop, some of the intrepid soldiers scaled the walls of the outerwork by hoisting each other up. The attack cost the French 7,500 casualties, but they succeeded in securing the Mamelon position.

FIRST ATTACK ON MALAKOFF FAILS

The French botched their first assault against the Malakoff, on 18 June. Pelissier decided not to soften up the Malakoff with a preliminary bombardment because he believed it would only alert the Russians that an attack was imminent and allow them to rush reinforcements to the redoubt. The French attack began prematurely because of confusion regarding the signal to attack. The Russians mauled the first wave of attackers, who never had a chance to use their scaling ladders. The Russia artillerymen then trained their long-range guns on the successive waves of French infantry moving up to attack. Disgusted with the way the attack was executed, Pelissier called it off.

The Allies increased the frequency and duration of their bombardment of the Russian defences in the early summer in a bid to capture the city before winter set in. As many as 75,000 artillery rounds fell on the city each day. Totleben was seriously wounded by a shell on 22 June and he had to leave the army to convalesce.

RUSSIAN TROOPS TRY TO BREAK THE ENCIRCLEMENT

As the Russian garrison's chances of winning the siege grew slimmer in the late summer, General Mikhail Gorchakov, the commander of the Sevastopol garrison, approved a new plan set out by military engineer General Fedor Bukhmeier.

The French assault on the Malakoff redoubt was so swift and sudden that the Russian defenders could not hold the position

© Getty Images

He tasked the Russian sailors with constructing a floating bridge across Sevastopol harbour from Fort Nicholas on the south side to Fort Michael on the north side. The purpose of the floating bridge, which was completed by the end of August, would be to evacuate the garrison in the event the Allies breached the port's outer defences.

While the bridge was under construction, the Russians were losing as many as 250 men a day to the Allied heavy guns. Because of this, Tsar Alexander II sent orders to Gorchakov instructing him to launch an attack that would break the Allied siege. Gorchakov complied, even though he believed it was an unattainable objective. The Russians attacked the Allied right flank on 16 August. Gorchakov committed 37,000 infantry against 27,000 French and Sardinian troops in what became known as the Battle of Chernaya. The attack floundered in the face of strong resistance.

The assault had cost the Russians 6,200 casualties compared to Allied casualties of 1,800. A bad omen for the Russians was that 1,700 troops took the opportunity once outside the Russian defences to desert the army. A steady stream of deserters left the city in the days that followed, slipping away at night or under the cloak of the morning fog.

ALLIED FIREPOWER OVERWHELMS RUSSIAN FORCES

The Allies continued to add new guns to their siege works throughout the late summer. A bombardment that began on 17 August and lasted for four days cost the Russians 1,000 soldiers each day. By early September the combined weight of the British and French guns had done considerable damage to the Malakoff Redoubt. Without Totleben to direct work crews in patching up the weak spots in the defences, much of the damage went unrepaired. The Allies began their sixth bombardment on 5 September. Hundreds of guns pounded the Russian defences around the clock in preparation for an assault on 8 September.

Pelissier decided to launch his infantry attack at noon on the scheduled day when the Russians changed their pickets. He tripled the number of troops he had used in the failed attack in June, and planned to commit 13 divisions totalling 60,000 troops to the attack. General Patrice MacMahon's 9,000-strong division would bear the brunt of the assault on the Malakoff. Once it had been secured, Pelissier would give the signal for the remaining British and French troops participating in the attack to storm other parts of the Russian defences.

Pelissier left nothing to chance. He designated pioneers to accompany the attack to ensure the troops got over the walls as quickly as possible. In addition, French artillerymen accompanied the attack to spike the enemy guns.

FRENCH TROOPS STORM MALAKOFF

The French Zouaves overran the Malakoff at noon on 8 September as planned while the Russians were changing pickets. The Russians had no time

FRENCH ARMY

Image credit: wiki/Collections du château de Versailles

PATRICE DE MACMAHON

A general and later politician, MacMahon's family was originally from Ireland and could trace its roots back to Muirchertach Ua Briain, High King of Ireland. After his victory at Malakoff and the Crimean War he served as Chief of State of France from 1873 and as President of France from 1875 to 1879.

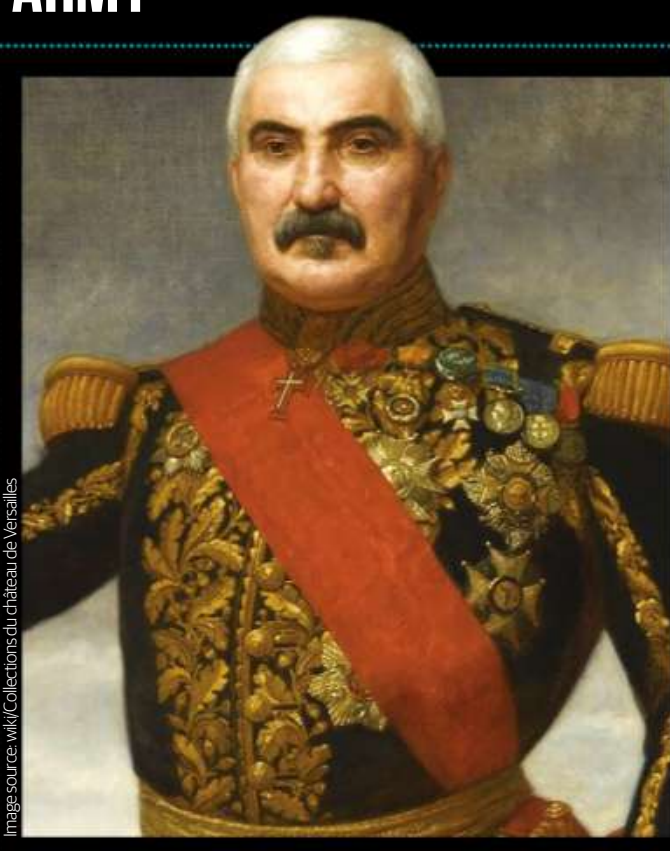


Image source: wiki/Collections du château de Versailles

AIMABLE PÉLISSIER

Serving as commander in chief of the French forces during the Siege of Sevastapol, Pélissier was singularly focused on victory and after achieving his aim was named Duke of Malakoff and a senator in the French government. He went on to be the French ambassador to London, followed by other posts.

RUSSIAN ARMY

© Alamy

PAVEL LIPRANDI

Prior to the Crimean War, Liprandi had fought in the Napoleonic Wars, the Russo-Turkish War, the November Uprising and the Hungarian Campaign, making him an experienced officer by the time he arrived at Malakoff. He was recommended by Nicholas I himself for a key role in the war.

Image source: wiki/Hermitage Museum

MIKHAIL DMITRIEVICH GORCHAKOV

Prince Mikhail joined the Russian Army in 1807 at 14 and was a lieutenant two years later. By 1855 he was commander in chief of the Russian forces in Crimea and while it ended in defeat, his conduct was praised. In 1856 he was made namestnik of the Kingdom of Poland, a deputy to the emperor.

Image source: wiki/Library of Congress

EDUARD TOTLEBEN

Totleben was a Baltic German, born in what is now Latvia, to what was once a noble family. He became a military engineer having attended university in Saint Petersburg. He joined the Imperial Russian Army in 1836. At Sevastopol he was key to planning the defence of the city.

to cut down the Zouaves because the French had advanced their trenches to within just 18 metres of the Malakoff.

As soon as the French had control of the redoubt, a detachment of Zouaves planted the French Tricolour atop the Malakoff tower, an observation post inside the high ground on which the redoubt was situated. MacMahon moved to the front lines to supervise the defence of the Malakoff because he expected the Russians would launch a counterattack as soon as they could assemble a strike force from their reserves.

A kilometre to the north, though, the French assault did not go as well. The Russians manning the Little Redan had more time to react and the French troops assaulting that sector would spend the next six hours making repeated assaults against it.

With the Malakoff in French hands, Pelissier signalled to the British to begin their assault on the Great Redan a kilometre south of the Malakoff. The British attack against the Great Redan failed, and French assaults on the other side of the city against the Central and Flagstaff bastions also failed.

RUSSIANS FAIL TO RETAKE MALAKOFF

While some of MacMahon's troops were consolidating their position on the Malakoff, other parts of his division were fighting a savage hand-to-hand battle for control of the Gervase Battery a short distance to the south. Although the French won that contest, they could not dislodge the defenders of the curtain north of the Malakoff.

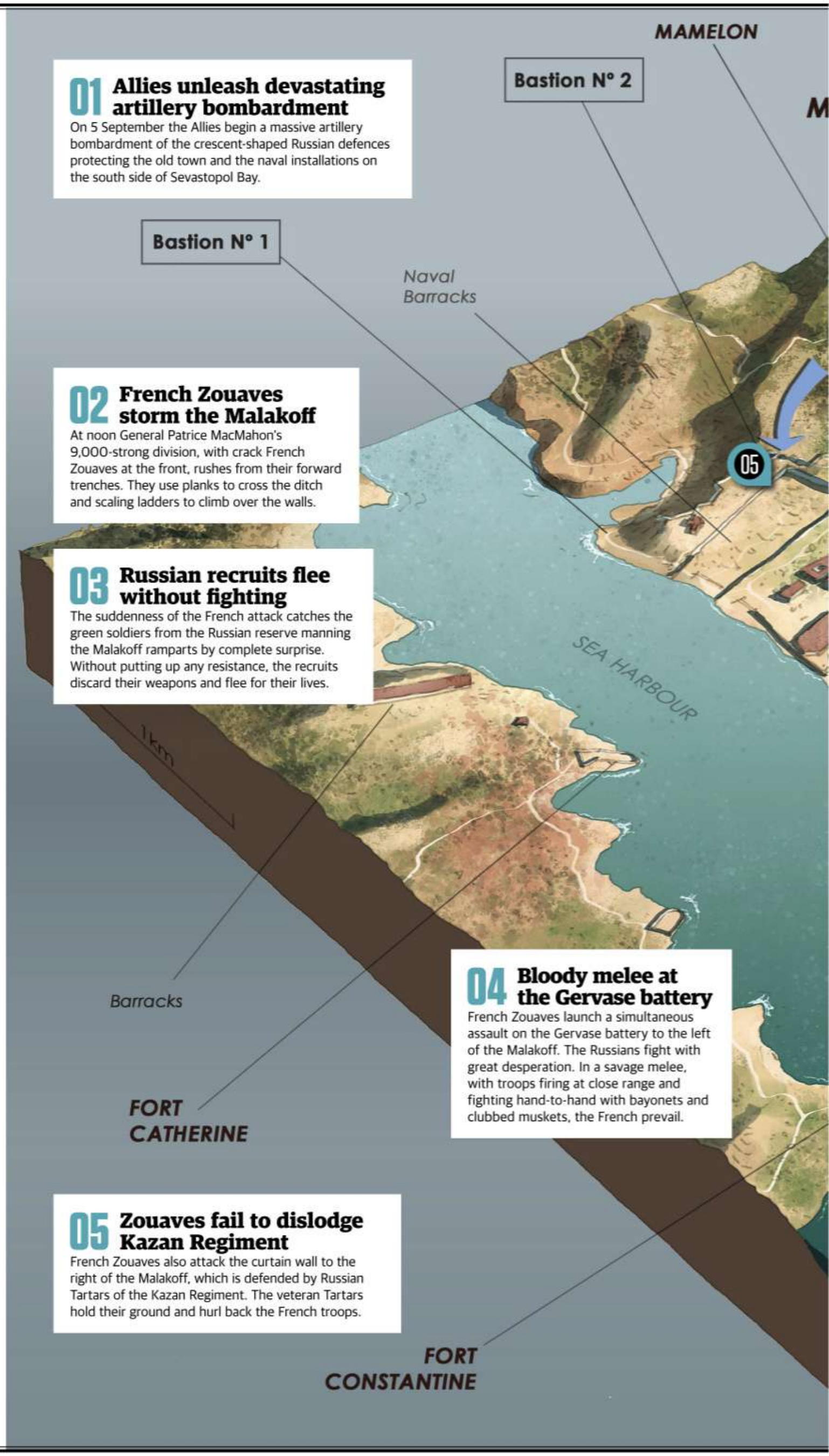
Hardly an hour had passed before the Russians counterattacked the Malakoff, charging the position with fixed bayonets. The fighting ebbed and flowed as each side fed fresh troops into the attack.

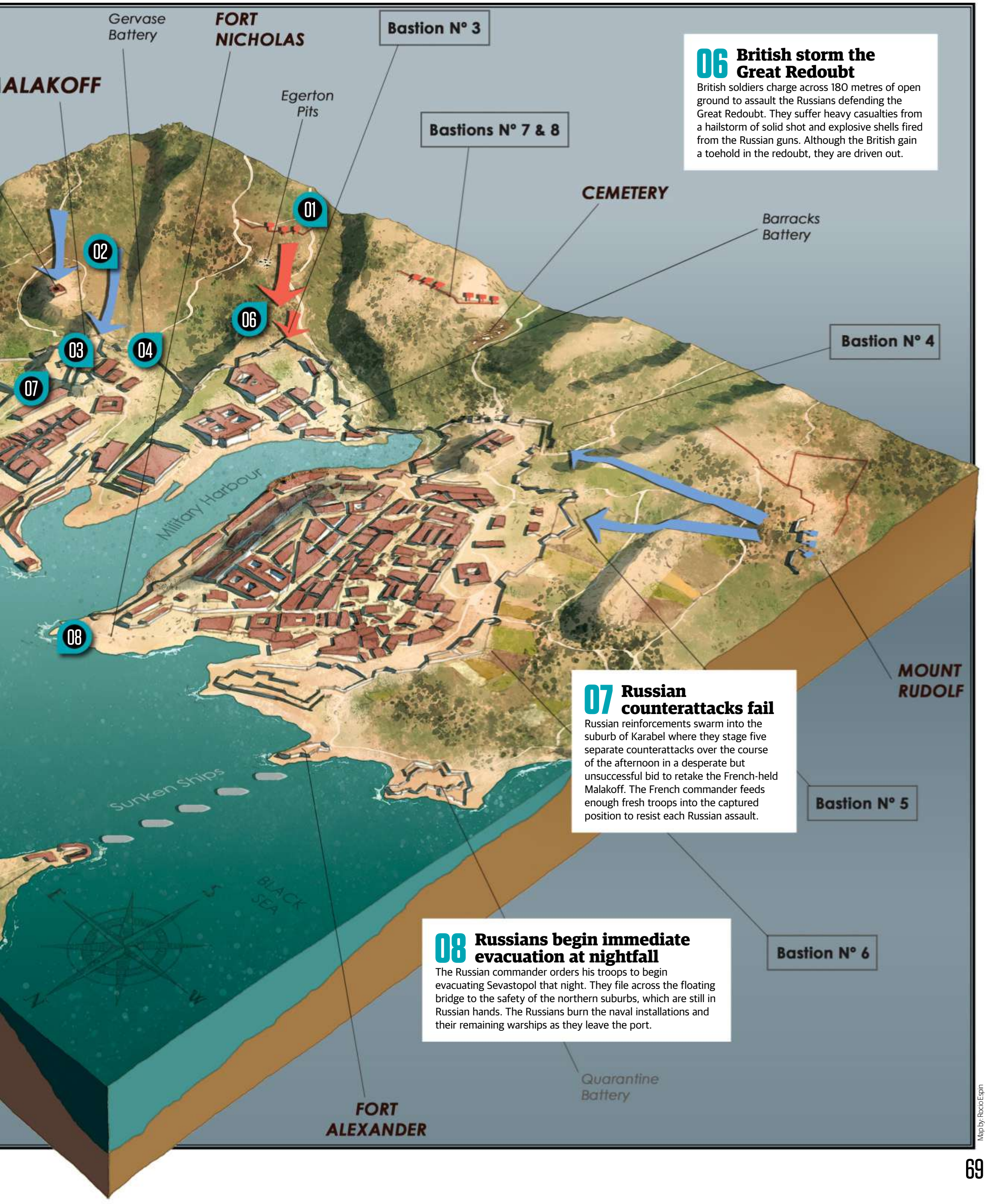
Despite the great valour of the Russian forces, the French enjoyed numerical superiority in the struggle for the Malakoff. As the sun set over the battlefield, the French worked throughout the night to improve their defences inside the Malakoff. They even stacked dead Russians to use them as makeshift breastworks.

The Russians suffered 12,000 casualties and the French just 7,500 casualties in the bloody struggle for the Malakoff. French assaults in other sectors failed, but that was of no consequence because French guns in the Malakoff could drive the Russians out of nearly all other parts of the city's defences, as well as the city itself.

When he learned that the Malakoff Redoubt was firmly in French hands, Gorchakov issued orders on 9 September for an immediate evacuation of the troops to the northern suburbs via the recently completed floating bridge.

The Allies took possession of the port's dockyards on 10 September. The bloody siege of Sevastopol had lasted 349 days. The overall cost of the operation to the Allies was 128,000 men, who died from combat or from disease, while the cost to the Russians was 100,000. The Crimean War dragged on for another six months.


MAMELON
Bastion N° 2
01 Allies unleash devastating artillery bombardment
On 5 September the Allies begin a massive artillery bombardment of the crescent-shaped Russian defences protecting the old town and the naval installations on the south side of Sevastopol Bay.
Bastion N° 1
Naval Barracks
02 French Zouaves storm the Malakoff
At noon General Patrice MacMahon's 9,000-strong division, with crack French Zouaves at the front, rushes from their forward trenches. They use planks to cross the ditch and scaling ladders to climb over the walls.
05
03 Russian recruits flee without fighting
The suddenness of the French attack catches the green soldiers from the Russian reserve manning the Malakoff ramparts by complete surprise. Without putting up any resistance, the recruits discard their weapons and flee for their lives.
SEA HARBOUR
1km
Barracks
04 Bloody melee at the Gervase battery
French Zouaves launch a simultaneous assault on the Gervase battery to the left of the Malakoff. The Russians fight with great desperation. In a savage melee, with troops firing at close range and fighting hand-to-hand with bayonets and clubbed muskets, the French prevail.
FORT CATHERINE
05 Zouaves fail to dislodge Kazan Regiment
French Zouaves also attack the curtain wall to the right of the Malakoff, which is defended by Russian Tartars of the Kazan Regiment. The veteran Tartars hold their ground and hurl back the French troops.
FORT CONSTANTINE


Gervase Battery
FORT NICHOLAS
Bastion N° 3
ALAKOFF
Egerton Pits
Bastions N° 7 & 8
CEMETERY
Barracks Battery
01
02
03
04
06
07
08
Bastion N° 4
Military Harbour
Sunken Ships
BLACK SEA
MOUNT RUDOLF
Bastion N° 5
Bastion N° 6
Quarantine Battery
FORT ALEXANDER
06 British storm the Great Redoubt
British soldiers charge across 180 metres of open ground to assault the Russians defending the Great Redoubt. They suffer heavy casualties from a hailstorm of solid shot and explosive shells fired from the Russian guns. Although the British gain a toehold in the redoubt, they are driven out.
07 Russian counterattacks fail
Russian reinforcements swarm into the suburb of Karabel where they stage five separate counterattacks over the course of the afternoon in a desperate but unsuccessful bid to retake the French-held Malakoff. The French commander feeds enough fresh troops into the captured position to resist each Russian assault.
08 Russians begin immediate evacuation at nightfall
The Russian commander orders his troops to begin evacuating Sevastopol that night. They file across the floating bridge to the safety of the northern suburbs, which are still in Russian hands. The Russians burn the naval installations and their remaining warships as they leave the port.

Map by: Rocio Espin

What If...

TEDDY ROOSEVELT HAD WON IN 1912?

Disillusioned with the administration of William Taft, the former Republican president mounted a third-party challenge

Interview by David J Williamson

INTERVIEW WITH

PROFESSOR KRISTOFER ALLERFELDT

Kristofer teaches US History at the University of Exeter. He is the author of *Organized Crime in the United States, 1865-1941*. His next book *The Klan: An American History* is due for release in 2023.

© Professor Kristofer Allerfeldt

Theodore 'Teddy' Roosevelt's life reads like a road map for the Great American Dream. From privileged childhood to cattle rancher in Dakota to governor of New York, then from vice president to president, he was catapulted into the presidency by the assassination of William McKinley in 1901. But he was no second-class substitute, winning another term in his own right in 1904. Battling corruption in big business and politics, he was not afraid of a fight. His belief in himself and what he stood for left him disappointed with the presidency of William Taft and in 1912 he set his sights on a third term in office, as the candidate for his new Progressive Party.

How divisive was Roosevelt as a politician and would a victory in 1912 have changed the Republican Party forever?

Roosevelt was certainly polarising, not just politically but personally. There is no doubt that his shift to a less conciliatory approach to business than McKinley must have ruffled more than a few feathers among the Republican supporters and that stance was more apparent than ever in 1912. His aggressive and interventionist foreign policy was also equally divisive in the Republican ranks. If he had won, well... I think the Republican Party would have had to amalgamate, somehow, with the Bull Moose [Progressive Party] and who knows what that would have meant to the Republican's evolving stance on capitalism. I feel more certain that the interventionist foreign policy issues would have taken centre stage a great deal earlier than April 1917.

What may have been the most prominent political and social changes he would've instigated?

Roosevelt's 'New Nationalism' platform was radical. His stance on labour issues promised the previously unthinkable: an eight-hour working day and a European-style national insurance. Policies like these had previously been the province of radicals like the Industrial Workers of the World and the Socialists. I'm not sure that they would have been achievable. In terms of his political legacy, even his virtual cult status had not been enough for him to defeat the rather colourless, pedestrian Taft for the [Republican] nomination. I suspect his division of the party would have haunted him and hampered his career in the unlikely event he'd won the nomination, and an even less likely victory at the polls.

How, if at all, would a Roosevelt victory have benefitted minority groups and women?

The obvious element here is Roosevelt's seeming inclusivity. He was not, like [Democrat Woodrow] Wilson, a Southerner. Yet it is debatable whether he would have segregated the Federal

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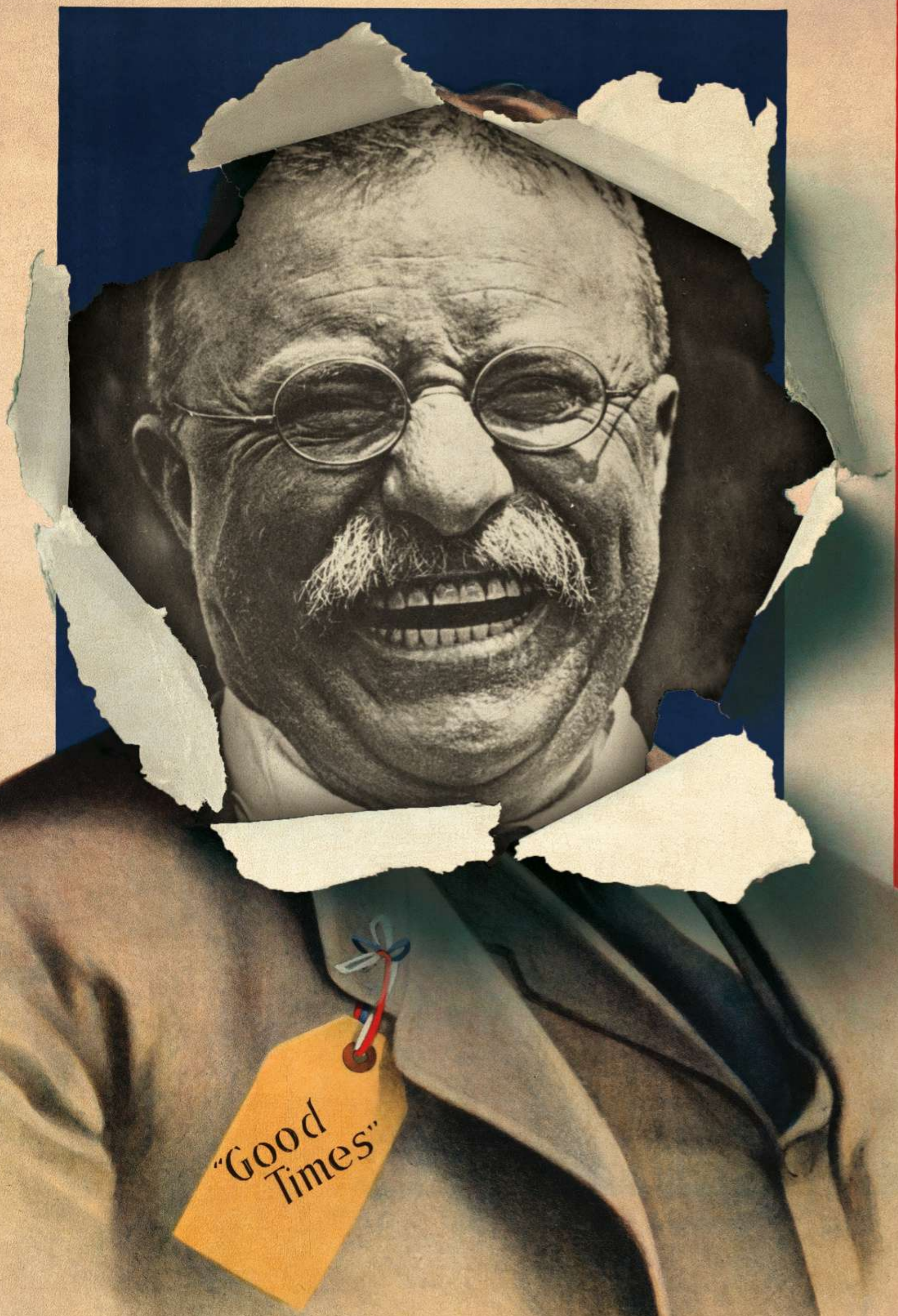
Main image sources: © Alamy, © Getty Images

RIGHT
Mount Rushmore memorial has Roosevelt next to Lincoln


"Good Times"

THE PAST

PRE-1901

THE SPIRIT OF AMERICA

Roosevelt had not been born into the frontiersman pioneering lifestyle of folklore, but he embraced it and used it to his own ends. His image of a rough-and-ready cowboy rancher was a far cry from the city streets, foreign travel and privileged surroundings of his formative years. And yet it was not all show. His life was perhaps less of a contradiction and more of a perfect mix of America's past and a modern future. His action-man lifestyle balanced perfectly in the public eye with his 'progressive' politics in defence of the rights of the individual.

1904

SEIZING THE DAY

With the death of McKinley in 1901 Roosevelt was well and truly in the spotlight, albeit by a twist of fate. If he'd had any doubters, then his re-election in 1904 silenced them. By now Roosevelt was well and truly a public figure of enormous stature and reputation. His image as a champion of the people was underpinned by his 'Square Deal' policy to protect the consumer, conserve natural resources and control large corporations. He dramatically expanded the system of national parks, campaigned for a welfare state, regulated the railways, and supported unions to represent the ordinary working man.

1912

NEVER SAY NEVER

Having previously ruled out a third term, Roosevelt became so disillusioned with President William Taft, and the Republican Party, that he had to stand again. But support for Taft was strong and Roosevelt began to have doubts. With typical grit, he formed the breakaway Progressive Party (labelled the 'Bull Moose' party after Teddy said he was as 'fit as a bull moose'). Even an assassination attempt didn't stop him, but up against the progressive Democrat Woodrow Wilson, Roosevelt knew he would lose votes. Wilson was triumphant, with the Republican vote split. Roosevelt was second with the highest ever percentage of votes for a third-party candidate.

Government. Again, unlike Wilson, he was in favour of women's suffrage. In those respects he may be considered progressive and his actions presumably [would've been] beneficial. On the other hand, this liberalism should not be taken too far. He demonstrated, with his handling of the Brownsville 'mutiny' in 1906, that he by no means regarded African-Americans as equals. His discussions of the 'War of the Cradle' and his feelings on the issue of women's position in society show him as very much a man of his times. Also, Roosevelt was far more committed to the then-fashionable eugenics arguments than Wilson. He believed in a racial hierarchy, but to him it was a controllable hierarchy, which although in many cases was permeable and flexible would nonetheless shock us today. So it rather depends on what you see as a benefit.

What kind of clash would there have been with big business? Was he a threat to organised crime?

Roosevelt was already known to be his own man when it came to commerce. His handling of the Anthracite Strike in 1902 had shown him to be a progressive, favouring a moderate policy. To big business this marked him as a radical. The reality is apparent in his New Nationalism's stance on trusts. To him a trust could be beneficial as well as detrimental. Roosevelt saw the Federal Government's role as being the arbiter of that distinction. Unsurprisingly business generally saw this intervention as abhorrent, but they probably felt it far less dangerous to their survival than the alternatives: Taft's record of splitting up corporations, Wilson's blanket mistrust of all monopolies, or [Eugene] Debs' implicit revolution. For this reason I feel the clash would have been muted. I also back this view up with the prediction that the US would have entered WWI at a far earlier date had Roosevelt been in power, creating boom conditions for the US economy and distinctly beneficial effects on troublesome labour.

In terms of the threat Roosevelt presented to organised crime, he had policing experience but I'm not sure it would have been top of his agenda. Organised crime is a malleable concept and over these years I would argue that it was generally seen in the public's mind in

ABOVE-INSET
Equality was championed, at least in name, in Roosevelt's presidential campaigns

ABOVE
'Speak softly and carry a big stick' was his foreign policy mantra

LEFT
Roosevelt led his 'rough riders' in the Spanish-American War of 1898

terms of the exploitation of the nation by trusts and white slavers. Roosevelt would have represented less of a threat to trusts than either of the alternative candidates. But on the issue of white slavery, I feel – with his rather puritanical and prurient streak – he would probably have backed the extensions of the Mann Act which took place in the Supreme Court over these years.

How might his presidency have developed the US militarily?
Roosevelt was, as he would no doubt have put it, famously 'bully' about military matters and the role of America in the world. I very much suspect that he would have taken the nation into WWI far earlier than Wilson did, and way before Debs would even have contemplated it. If he could not persuade Congress to back such measures, I feel he would still have re-armed and expanded all parts of the military far faster than his opponents. The results? Who knows? US finance, resources, manpower and enthusiasm may have swayed the balance of power. But there is a chance that without the strategic lessons learned by 1918, they may have just been bloodily and expensively squandered. In the long-term I've no doubt they would have prevailed. Closer to home, given his previous record, it is probable that Roosevelt would have intervened in Mexico and Haiti, probably with more forces.

Can Roosevelt be regarded as a progressive symbol of America's future or a throwback to its wild pioneering past?
I'm a historian, you know I have to say "both" – it's in my academic DNA! Roosevelt was a capital "P" Progressive. He believed in rationalism. He was urban, Christian, paternal and forward-looking. He passionately believed in the power of education as a force for change, both in the individual and in society. That, I think, was where he distinguished himself from his opponents. Wilson's messianic mission was driven by belief in himself and his destiny. Taft's belief was in the power and guidance of the law and the Constitution. Debs' socialism was didactic. He knew how America could, and should, be changed. But Roosevelt was also the cowboy, the pioneer, the macho frontiersman, the boxer, the hunter and the soldier. He saw nothing wrong with combining the abstracts, theories and laws of education with the 'strenuous life'. He saw that hybrid nature of drivers as what distinguished and elevated the American and cultivated him, and to Roosevelt it was a 'him'. So, yes, Roosevelt was proudly a combination of both features – and that, I feel, is how we should regard him.

What future events in US and/or world history may have changed with a Roosevelt third term?
I'm not sure that World War I would have been that different. I think the peace which followed – had Roosevelt been in power, or even survived that long – would have been dramatically different. Depending on his wartime experiences, and those of his children, I feel he would have negotiated a far less idealistic and, probably, more nationalistic treaty in Paris, or wherever. If – and it is a big if – that had happened, perhaps the United States would have assumed a role similar to that taken up in 1945. Maybe that would have precluded the rise of fascism. Perhaps that, in turn, would have prevented the Cold War. On the other hand maybe his gung-ho nature would have forced such casualties on the US that it was America and not Russia that turned to revolution.

THE POSSIBILITY

1914 TO 1916?

THE GREAT WAR
Roosevelt had first-hand experience of war and was not one to shy away from confrontation. He also had personal experience of Europe through his travels as a young man, so it is just possible that he may have come to the aid of the Allies in World War I sooner than actually happened. The sheer volume of resources that the US could have potentially put into the conflict at that early stage could well have changed the nature of the war, both in how it was fought and for how long.

1920s & 1930s

FAILURE OF FASCIST FUTURE
Despite the US fighting alongside the Allies in WWI, the post-war treaties that followed were far from resilient. The US chose to go its own way, culminating in the US-German Peace Treaty of 1921 that in effect softened the financial blow on post-war Germany. As president, Roosevelt may well have taken a different, harsher view of Germany's situation well before this, which in turn may well have given the victorious Allies more control over Germany's affairs. This may have suppressed the influence and escalation of fascism and it's possible that war in 1939 could have been less likely.

1920s

SECOND US REVOLUTION
The ability of the US to 'wield a big stick' in foreign policy increased thanks to its developing economy and industrial muscle. Roosevelt's commitment to protecting US borders, especially in the Caribbean and Latin America, may have increased in machinery, manpower and money. Had his commitment to WWI resulted in the deaths of hundreds of thousands of US troops instead of tens of thousands, the need to justify the sacrifice and commitment financially would've been immense. Pressure on the economy from such overseas involvement, personal loss and anger at policy-making may have sparked unrest and even revolution.

All images: © Alamy

Through History

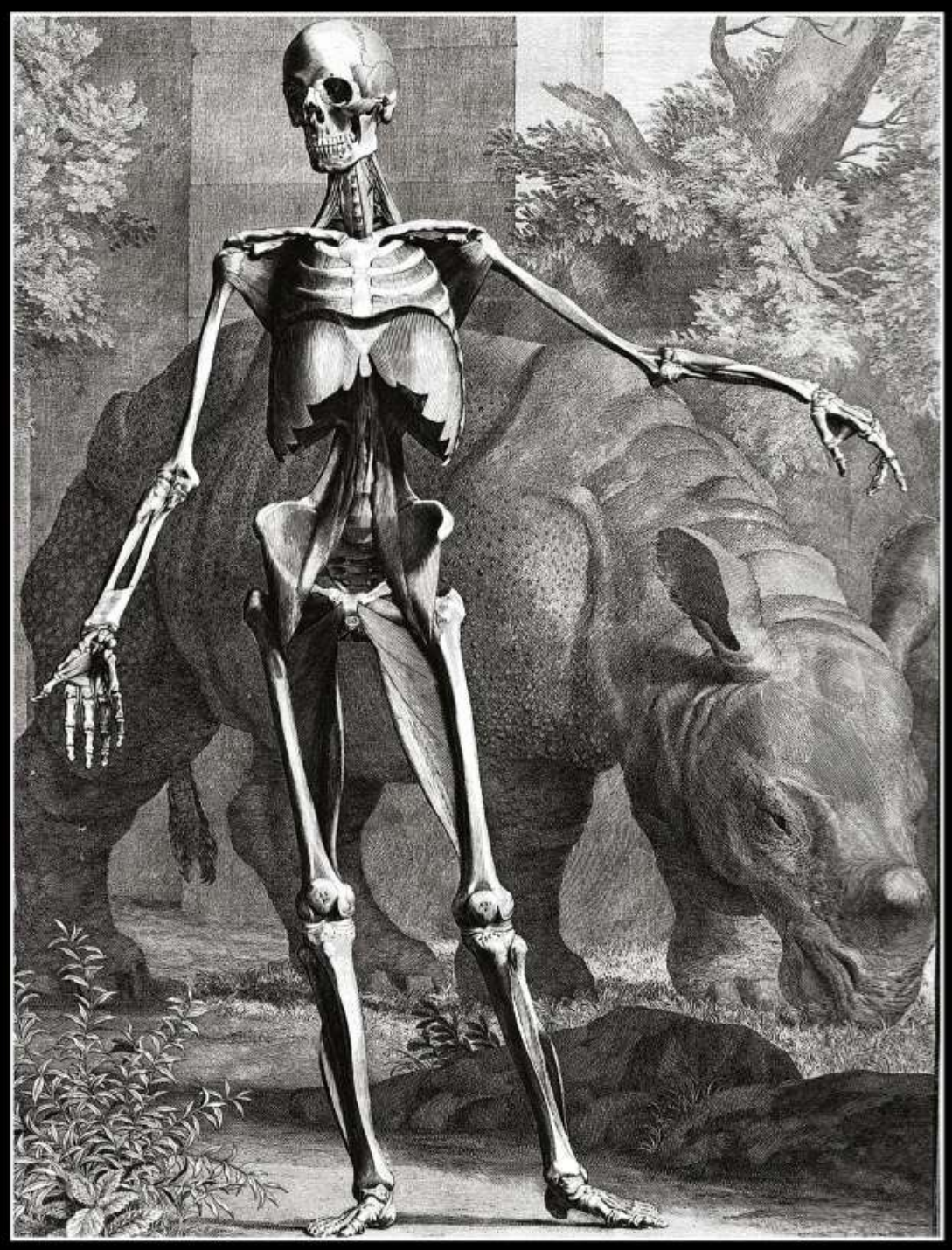
A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH

A new exhibition at the National Museum of Scotland explores the history of anatomical research and dissection through gruesome artefacts

In 1828 the gloomy streets of Edinburgh were a scary place to be. Murderers William Burke and William Hare had people living in fear, selling the bodies of their victims to the prominent medical schools of the city for anatomical dissection. They killed at least 16 people, and Burke was executed in 1829 for his part in their gruesome crimes. His skeleton and signed confession are now part of a new exhibition at the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh.

Anatomy: A Matter of Life and Death will examine the social and medical history surrounding the practice of dissection, and look at the relationship between science and crime in the early 19th century to provide insight as to why the Burke and Hare murders happened in Edinburgh. Drawing on 500 years of medical discovery, the exhibition also features the anatomical drawings of Leonardo da Vinci, which have been lent to the museum by the Royal Collection. With artefacts from across the centuries, visitors will learn about the history of anatomical dissection culminating in the modern approaches to body donation. The exhibition will open on 2 July 2022 and run until 30 October 2022.

© Royal College of Physicians of London



TABLES OF THE SKELETON

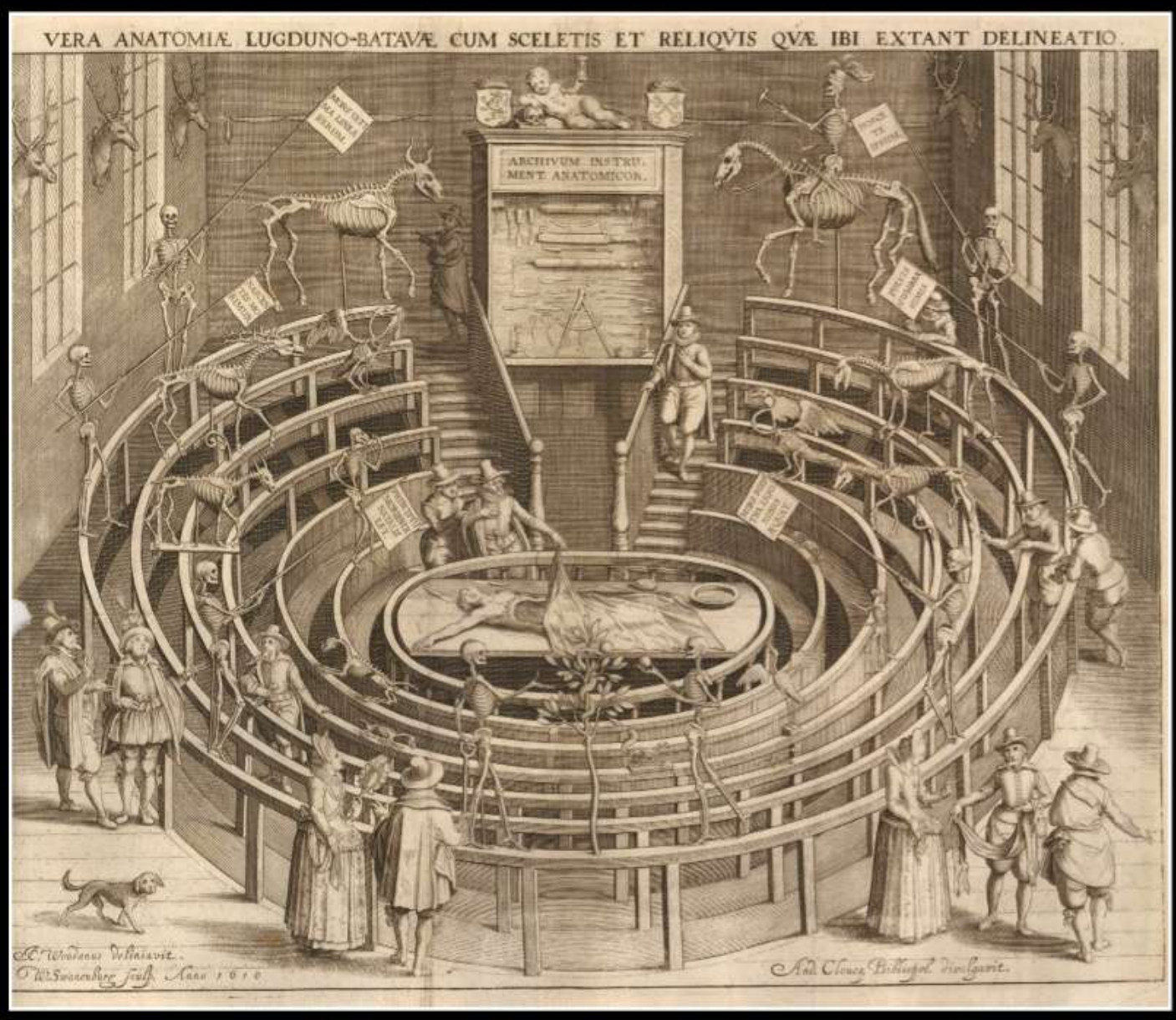
Tabulae Sceleti et Musculorum Corporis Humani, published in 1747 by Bernhard Siegfried Albinus, attempted to increase the accuracy of anatomical sketches. Working with artist Jan Wandelaar, Albinus' book featured precise anatomical drawings with beautiful backdrops, like this one which features a rhinoceros.

© Wellcome Collection

ANATOMY THEATRE ETCHING

In the 1600s dissections took place in theatres like this one at the University of Leiden, Holland, etched by Willem van Swanenburg from a drawing by Jan Cornelisz in 1610. At this time the Netherlands and Italy were the centres of anatomical study.

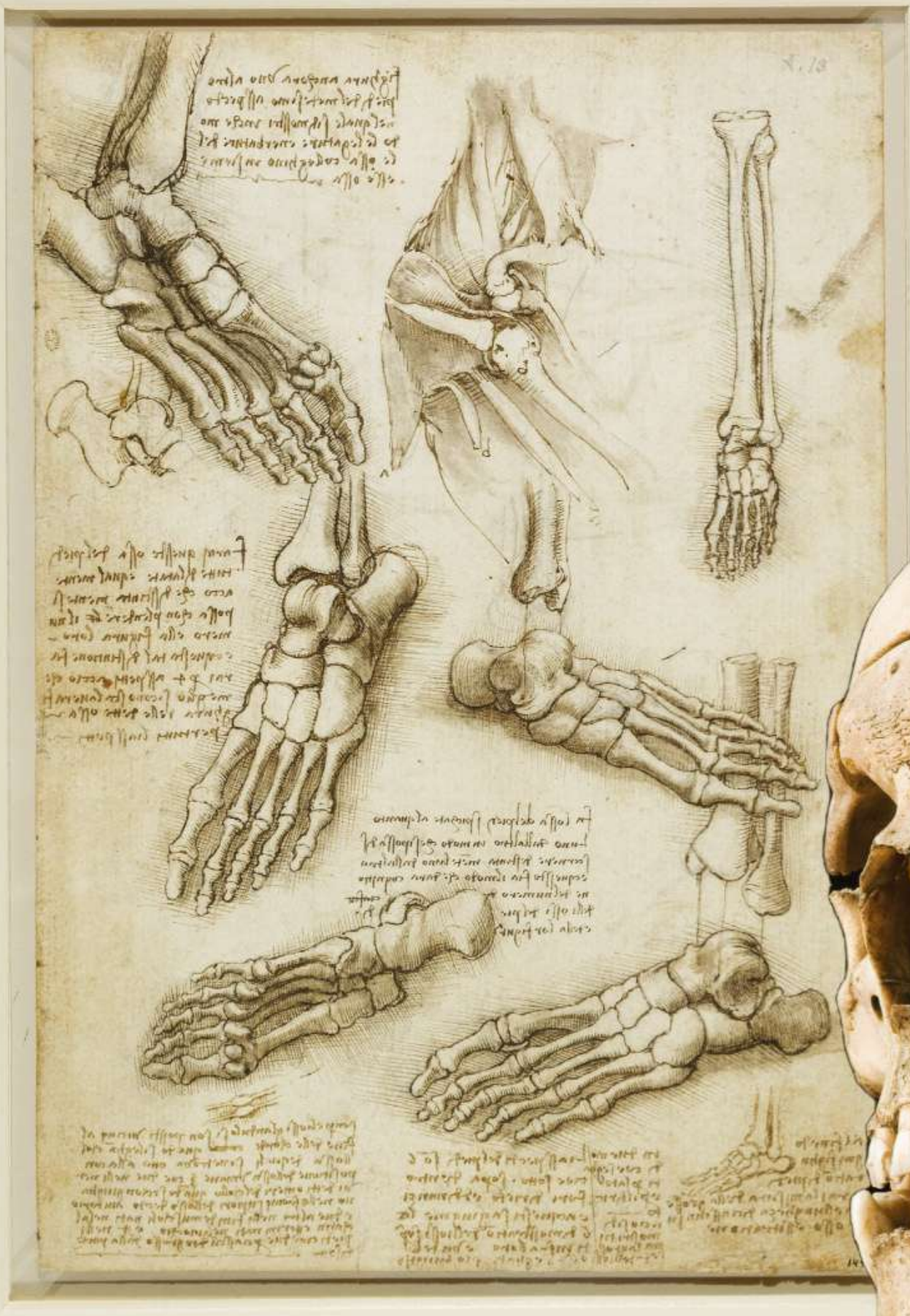
© Royal College of Physicians



LEECH JAR

Since the Ancient Egyptians, leeches have been used in treating the sick. Attached to the patient's skin, the leeches draw blood while secreting proteins and peptides, which help to prevent blood clots. The practice is less-common today than it has been throughout history.

© National Museums Scotland



DA VINCI DRAWINGS

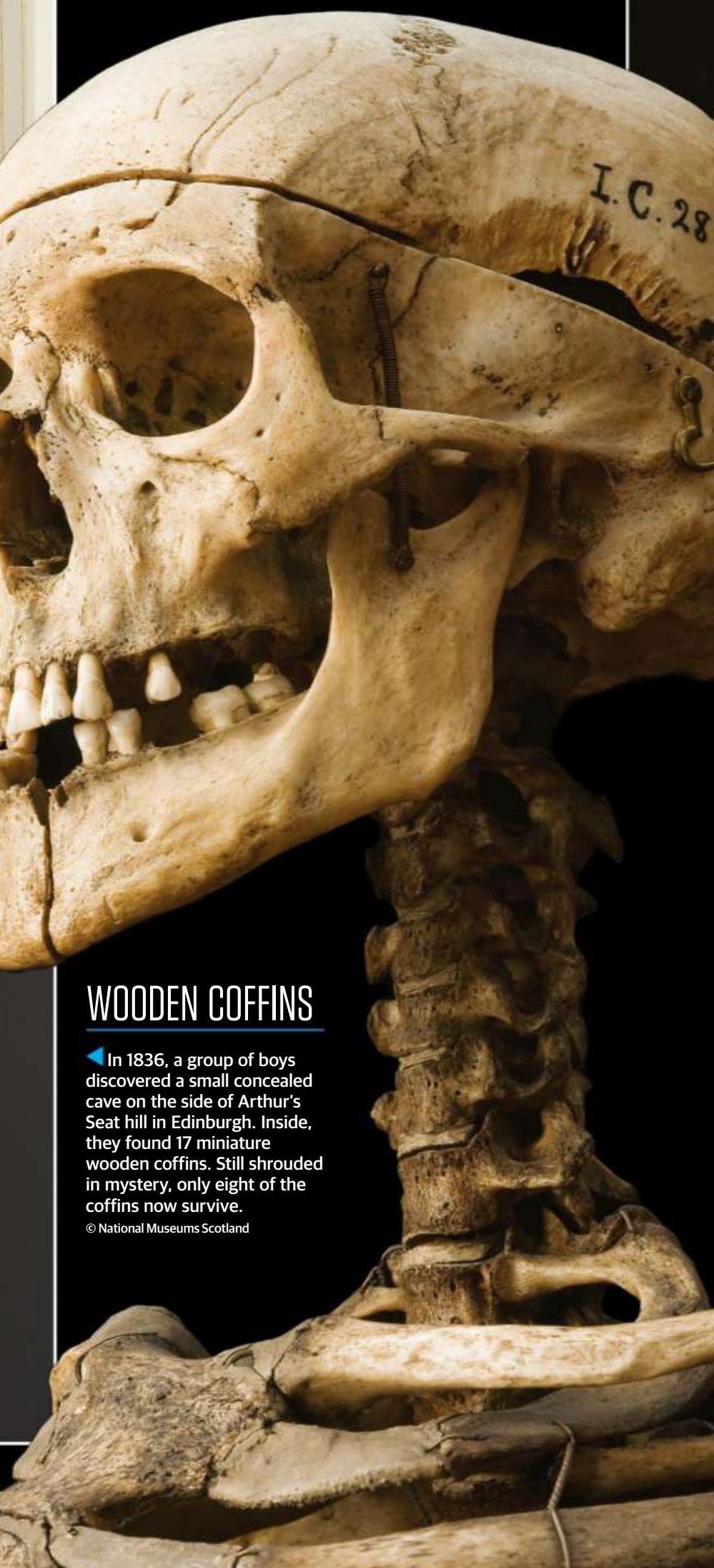
Leonardo da Vinci (1452 – 1519) took a great interest in human anatomy, dissecting over 30 corpses in his quest to understand the inner workings of the body. He never published his research and his drawings were only found in his personal papers around 1900.

© Royal Collection Trust © Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2021

BURKE'S SKELETON

After he was hanged in 1829, serial killer William Burke's body was subjected to anatomical dissection. His skeleton and death mask were kept at the Anatomical Museum at Edinburgh University. A calling-card case was also made out of his skin.

© Anatomical Museum collection, University of Edinburgh



WOODEN COFFINS

In 1836, a group of boys discovered a small concealed cave on the side of Arthur's Seat hill in Edinburgh. Inside, they found 17 miniature wooden coffins. Still shrouded in mystery, only eight of the coffins now survive.

© National Museums Scotland

MEDICINE CABINET

This cabinet was carried by medics at the Battle of Culloden in 1746. Used to keep ointments and medicines, the cabinet highlights the range of medicinal products available to the soldiers at the time.

© National Museums Scotland

THE ANATOMY LESSON

This 1728 painting by Cornelis Troost shows Dr Willem Röell giving a lesson in anatomy by dissecting a corpse's knee joint. The men surrounding the doctor are officers of the Amsterdam surgeons' guild.

© Amsterdam Museum

REVIEWS

The books, TV shows and films causing a stir in the history world this month

2x © Alamy

DOWNTON ABBEY: A NEW ERA

A fan-pleasing silver screen extension to the stately series

Certificate: PG **Director:** Simon Curtis **Cast:** Hugh Bonneville, Jim Carter, Michelle Dockery **Released:** Out now

Following six seasons and a feature film released in 2019, the cast of the hugely successful period drama *Downton Abbey* returns again to cinema screens. First broadcast in 2010, the series quickly became a staple of ITV Sunday night viewing and created a legion of adoring fans. It tells the story of the fictional estate of Downton Abbey and the lives of its occupants – both the aristocracy and those who work for them. This new film continues their adventures in the brave new world of the 1930s.

An initial trailer implied that the film would comprise simply of a sojourn to the South of France. This conjured unpleasant memories of previous cinematic adaptations of popular television series set in sunnier climes – *Are You Being Served?*'s trip to the 'Costa Plonka' anyone? Here, however, this is something of a B-plot and *A New Era* spends more time focussing on how the titular stately home's inhabitants deal with a film crew shooting at the abbey. Thematically this allows the film to live up to its title, the mystery surrounding the Dowager Countesses inheritance of a villa representing the past and the film crew representing the future. This balance between the old and the new occupies much of *A New Era*'s runtime. It also allows it to deliver a number of emotional blows, some of which are sure to leave longtime fans with a tear in their eye.

As with its immediate predecessor, the film impressively wrangles a large cast of characters. Of course, fans will no doubt be disappointed that some feature less than others, but this is one of the obvious perils of transitioning a six-season TV series into a two-hour film. That said, all the actors shine in their scenes – whether their roles are big or small. Some of the obvious highlights are Michelle Dockery as Lady Mary, who receives probably the most to do of any of the regulars, and Jim Carter as Mr Carson. Carter serves as the comic heart of the film and, despite limited screen time, is always amusing. Maggie Smith is another obvious returning highlight, slipping in a few of the Dowager Countess' iconic quips and sly remarks. Hugh Dancy as Jack Barber, Laura Haddock as Myrna Dalgleish and Dominic West as Guy Dexter provide some fresh faces, with the latter having a particularly touching plotline involving the long-suffering Mr Barrow, played by Robert James-Collier.

Despite its runtime of just over two hours, *Downton Abbey: A New Era* never feels slow or tedious. The locations look even more stunning on the big screen and the sublime elegance of the familiar Downton and the new villa in the South of France are sure to dazzle any audience. Historically, the film is fascinating too, exploring areas such as the transition from silent film to 'talkies'. It even manages to teach us that while *The Jazz Singer* was the first feature film with sound, 1928's *The Terror* (based on a play by Edgar Wallace) was equally important as one of the first 'all-talking' films.

Heartwarming and bittersweet in the best of ways, *Downton Abbey: A New Era* is sure to delight established *Downton Abbey* fans and no doubt create a few new ones. ***CM***

★★★★☆

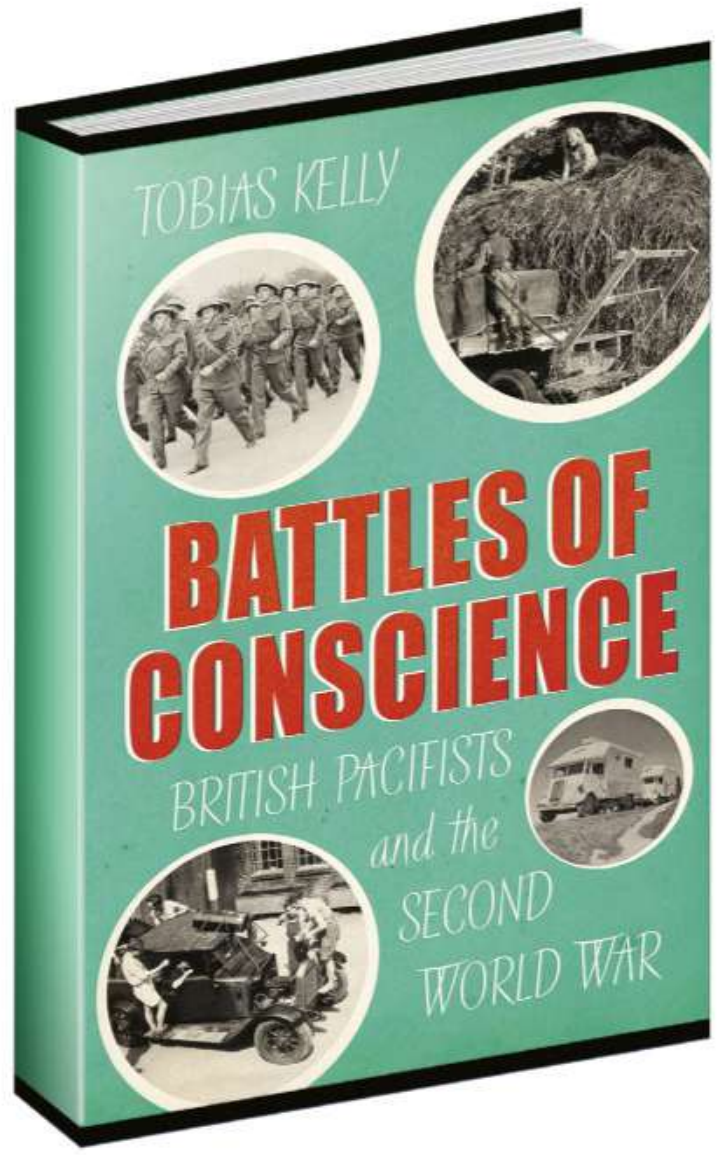
Book Film TV Podcast Games Other

Reviews by
Callum McKelvie, Jonathan Gordon, Emily Staniforth

BATTLES OF CONSCIENCE

An investigation into WWII's conscientious objectors

Author: Tobias Kelly **Publisher:** Chatto & Windus **Price:** £22 **Released:** Out now



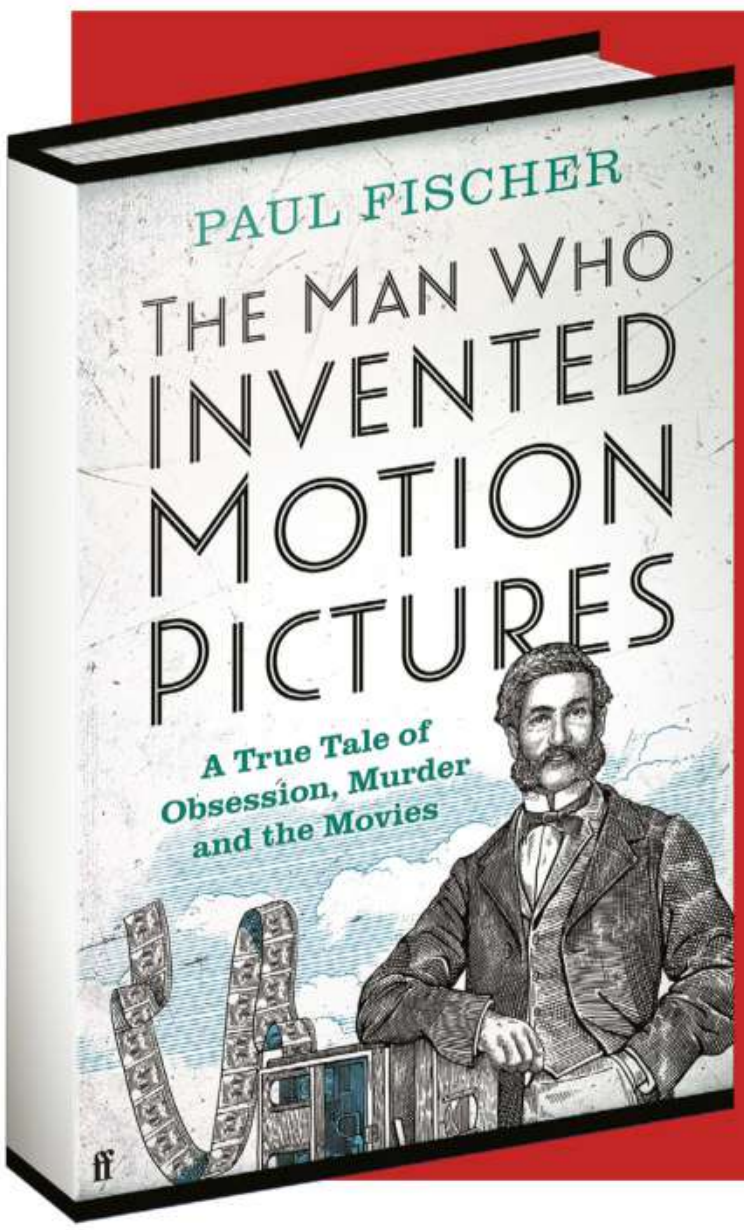
At what point would you be willing to compromise what you believe in? At the heart of Tobias Kelly's book that examines the lives of five conscientious objectors in Britain during World War II this question is tacitly being asked of you as a reader. When faced with what Kelly describes as "a war seen as not only just but necessary" there were thousands of men and women who refused to be involved. *Battles of Conscience* looks to explain why and how.

Kelly is a social anthropologist by profession and is not looking to tell the history of all conscious opponents to WWII, but instead takes his five case studies from different regions and socio-economic backgrounds and looks to find the connecting themes.

What we see are some people still living under the shadow of their experience of the Great War, some are driven by political animosity towards the British establishment, others have strong religious conviction and some have even been inspired by people like Gandhi. We also get an insight into their own internal conflict and self-examination that came from their stance.

While they were widely ridiculed and condemned in their own time, their stance was nonetheless protected by those in power. Winston Churchill and the Archbishop of Canterbury, among others, defended the 'conchies' and highlighted that the fight against authoritarianism was precisely in defence of such rights. Whether you agree or disagree with their position, reading Kelly's excellent book you will come away with a more empathetic understanding of their reasoning. ***JG***

★★★★☆



THE MAN WHO INVENTED MOTION PICTURES

The pioneer of cinema who vanished without a trace

Author: Paul Fischer **Publisher:** Faber & Faber **Price:** £20 **Released:** Out now

Who invented cinema? While it's hard to attribute it to one figure, candidates who usually get the credit are the Lumière brothers or Thomas Edison. Yet there is one man you may not have heard of, Louis Le Prince, whose contribution appears significant but is often overshadowed by the mysterious circumstances surrounding his vanishing off a train in 1890. Paul Fischer's new book explores the life of Le Prince and presents a possible answer to the enduring question of his disappearance.

Fischer's book *A Kim Jong-Il Production* received universal praise and was highly acclaimed, and reading *The Man Who Invented Motion Pictures* it's easy to see why. His writing style is engaging and he eloquently explains the complex scientific challenges Le Prince faced. Fischer also deep dives into Edison's development of the Kinetoscope, providing welcome context.

Alongside his exploration of the early world of motion pictures is Fischer's examination of Le Prince's disappearance. One theory is that he was murdered on the orders of Edison, a theory that his widow herself believed. Some of Fischer's conclusions are conjecture but he prefaces this section by noting "... we long for answers. There is romance in the story of an underdog inventor disappearing, as if by magic" and concluding that the killer's identity "will never be known with certainty."

This book is highly recommended to those with an interest in the early days of cinema as well as lovers of historic mysteries. ***CM***

★★★★½

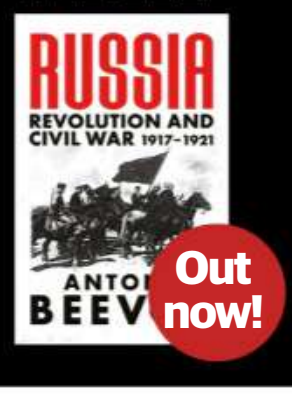
Out now!

Book of the Kennedys

The name Kennedy may immediately conjure up images of JFK and his assassination, but there is far more to America's most enduring political dynasty than its famous son. From the origins of the Kennedy clan to the rise of its political figures and the scandals that threatened to derail them, **All About History** *Book of the Kennedys* reveals the truth behind the glistening smiles and examines the family's continuing influence on US politics.

Buy *Book of the Kennedys* in shops or online at **magazinesdirect.com Price:** £15.99

HISTORY of WAR **RECOMMENDS...**



Out now!

Russia: Revolution And Civil War 1917-1921

Author Antony Beevor **Price** £30 **Publisher** W&N

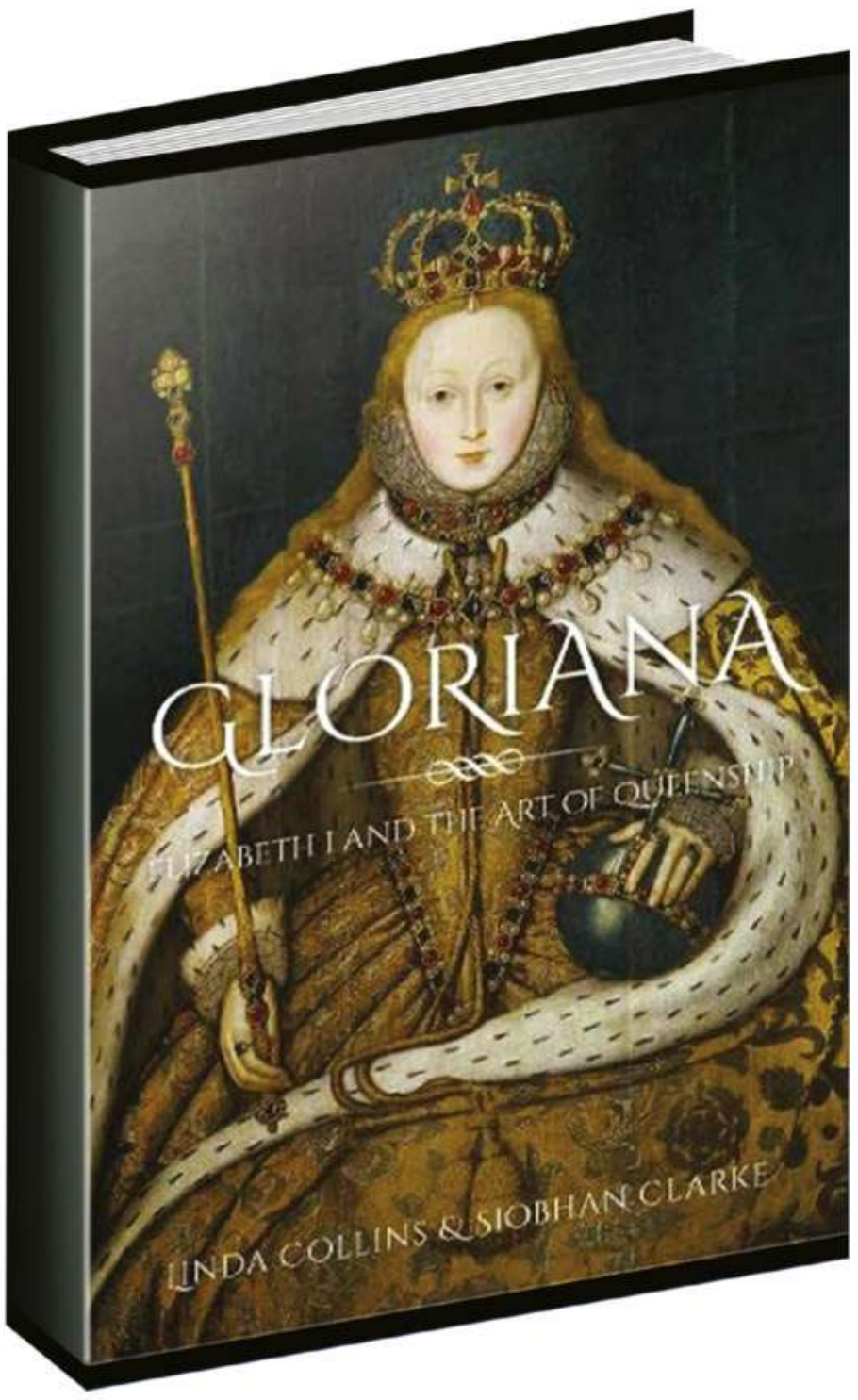
This is superlative panoramic history at its best, though Antony Beevor never loses sight of those who lived it. It is his expert eye for impeccably researched first-hand accounts, which are peppered throughout, that brings this enlightening and sobering read to life. What unfolds is a tragedy of epic proportions that goes some way to explain our own troubled times.

GLORIANA:

ELIZABETH I AND THE ART OF QUEENSHIP

A history of Elizabeth's reign through the portraits she inspired

Authors: Linda Collins and Siobhan Clarke **Publisher:** The History Press **Price:** £16.99 **Released:** Out now



"Elizabeth was acutely aware of how she could use the emergence of talented Renaissance artists"

The life and reign of Elizabeth I is certainly not a subject that has been neglected by historians. Her life has been picked apart and pored over for centuries, with few stones left unturned in the quest to understand the last monarch of the Tudor dynasty. This book from Linda Collins and Siobhan Clarke is a refreshing approach to examining Elizabeth, the people she surrounded herself with, the events of her reign and the impact of art during the Elizabethan era. It's a masterful, fast-paced journey through Elizabeth's life viewed through the prism of the portraits that were left behind at the end of her reign.

Gloriana: Elizabeth I and the Art of Queenship utilises the art of portraiture to examine each aspect of the Elizabethan Age. Beginning with the role of the Renaissance in Elizabeth's life and how she was depicted in art, Collins and Clarke take us on a whistle-stop tour of a range of portraits. Some are instantly recognisable, while others are lesser known but still demonstrative of Elizabeth's legitimacy, personality, intelligence and background.

Gloriana is divided into sections that explore aspects of the Tudor queen's life, from the personal topics of childhood and marriage to the political themes of her reign such as Catholic conspiracies and international threats. Each chapter expertly guides the reader through the individual themes, before linking the content to a portrait that highlights these specific features of Elizabeth's life. Not only that, but the authors also impart knowledge about the artists themselves, the style of the portraits, and meticulously dissect every inch of the paintings to provide real insight into how Elizabeth wanted to portray herself to the rest of the world. In doing so, Collins and Clarke have not only produced a biography of Elizabeth, but also the history of the evolution of portrait-painting in the Elizabethan period.

The thing that becomes most clear throughout this book is that Elizabeth was a highly intelligent woman. Not only was she a shrewd political player who knew how to consolidate her throne as a woman in a male-dominated world, she was also acutely aware of her public image and how she could use the emergence of talented Renaissance artists, writers and musicians to ensure the desired perception of herself was projected to others. The resulting Cult of Gloriana became an art movement that revered the queen as an other-worldly virgin goddess. The symbolism and allegorical elements in the portraits of Elizabeth highlighted in this book prove that she was indeed a woman of incredible intellect.

The portraits of Elizabeth and other significant figures such as Robert Dudley, Mary Queen of Scots and William Shakespeare, selected by the authors, help to illustrate the politics of Elizabethan England and the cultural milestones of the time. Tying into drama, music, literature and fashion, *Gloriana* does an incredible job of covering each aspect of Elizabeth's life and the Cult of Gloriana in a mere 230 pages. ***ES***

★★★★★

HISTORY VS HOLLYWOOD

Fact versus fiction on the silver screen

THE BOSTON STRANGLER

Director: Richard Fleischer **Starring:** Tony Curtis, Henry Fonda, George Kennedy
Country: USA **Released:** 1968

Criticised during its release for being exploitative, does this true-crime epic swap sincerity for shocks?

VERDICT: A well-made piece of entertainment but sloppy with the facts and feels seedy as a result

01 The Boston Strangler killed 13 women between 1962 and 1964. While some of the details about how the bodies were 'displayed' for the police are included, many are omitted – such as the strangler having left a New Year's card next to his victim Mary Sullivan.

02 Henry Fonda stars as John S Bottomly, an assistant attorney general appointed to lead a 'strangler bureau' investigating the murders. Fonda's Bottomly is a calm, scholarly hero but many of the Bottomley's real colleagues doubted his suitability for the case.

03 At one point the police who are hunting the strangler seek the help of a psychic, Peter Hurkos, known as the 'telepathic detective'. Hurkos really was consulted and would also assist in the investigation of the 1969 Manson family murders.

04 The film introduces Tony Curtis as Albert DeSalvo, who confessed to the 13 murders but was never tried or convicted as the strangler. While the text at the end of the movie states this fact, the film seems to suggest outright that it was DeSalvo.

05 Bottomly has a number of intense interviews with DeSalvo. This occurred, though he was first suspected because he confessed to a fellow inmate, not because Bottomly overheard him in a lift. It was also lawyer F Lee Bailey who first interviewed DeSalvo.

Main image: © Alamy
5x inset image source: Twentieth Century Fox

Did you know?

Vezir parmağı literally translates to mean the vizier's fingers

Main image: © Getty Images
Inset image: © Getty Images

VIZIER'S FINGERS

SWEET, STICKY BAKED DOUGH FINGERS, TURKEY, c.1299 – PRESENT

Ingredients

For dough mixture

- 322g plain flour
- 100g butter
- 10g baking powder
- 1 large egg
- 4-5 handfuls of semolina
- 107g olive oil
- 122g natural yoghurt
- 5 drops of almond essence

For syrup mixture

- 300g granulated sugar
- 235ml water
- Juice of 1 orange

The sweet Ottoman dessert vezir parmağı, which translates as vizier's fingers, has a legendary origin. The story goes that a sultan was out hunting when one of his viziers accidentally cut off the sultan's finger. The vizier was sent to prison. The next day, the sultan and his men were out hunting again when they encountered a tribe of cannibals. The cannibals ate every man except the sultan as they would not eat anyone with a missing body part. The sultan returned and freed the vizier in gratitude. A feast was held where the sultan's cooks created this finger-shaped dessert to honour the vizier.

METHOD

01 Preheat the oven to 180°C.
02 To make the syrup, put the sugar, water and orange juice in a pan and boil.
03 Once the liquid has been brought to the boil, remove the pan from the heat and allow the mixture to cool. Put the syrup to one side.
04 Lightly toast the flour in a large pan until it is a light brown colour.
05 Add the butter and oil into the pan and stir into the flour. Keep stirring until the mixture is smooth with no lumps.
06 Allow the flour mixture to cool.
07 Once cooled, add the baking powder, egg, yoghurt and almond essence to the flour mixture.
08 Mix together until a dough forms and then knead.
09 Put the semolina on a plate.
10 Take a tablespoon-sized portion of dough and use your hands to roll the dough into the shape of a finger.
11 Roll the finger-shaped dough in the semolina until it is fully coated and place on an oven tray lined with baking paper.
12 Repeat the two previous steps until all the dough has been used.
13 Put the dough into the preheated oven and bake for 20 minutes.
14 Take out of the oven and allow to cool for around five minutes.
15 Drizzle the syrup over the dough fingers and serve.

NEXT MONTH THE SECRETS OF STONEHENGE ON SALE 14 JULY

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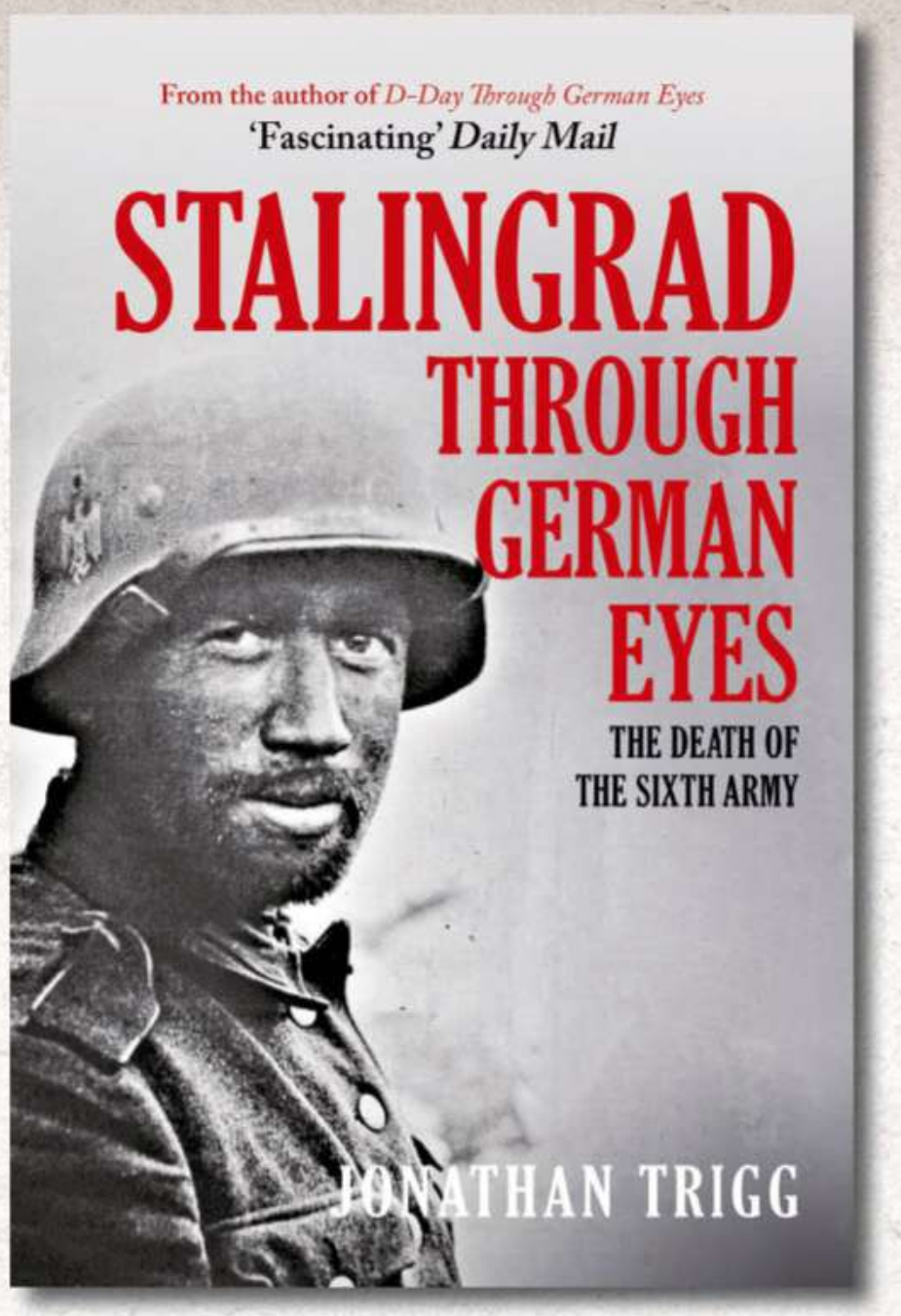
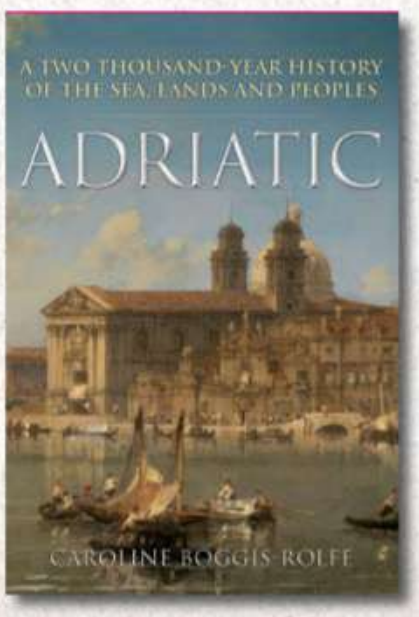

From the author of *D-Day Through German Eyes*
'Fascinating' *Daily Mail*
STALINGRAD THROUGH GERMAN EYES
THE DEATH OF THE SIXTH ARMY
JONATHAN TRIGG

THE BATTLE OF STALINGRAD THROUGH GERMAN EYES: THE DEATH OF THE SIXTH ARMY

BY JONATHAN TRIGG
9781398110717

Jonathan Trigg reveals the human agony behind such statistics through the words of the Germans who were there: 'You'll regret this insulting, provocative and thoroughly predatory attackon the Soviet Union! You'll pay dearly for it!' (Dekanazov, Soviet Ambassador in Berlin). The Germans did. But the butcher's bill was huge for both sides.



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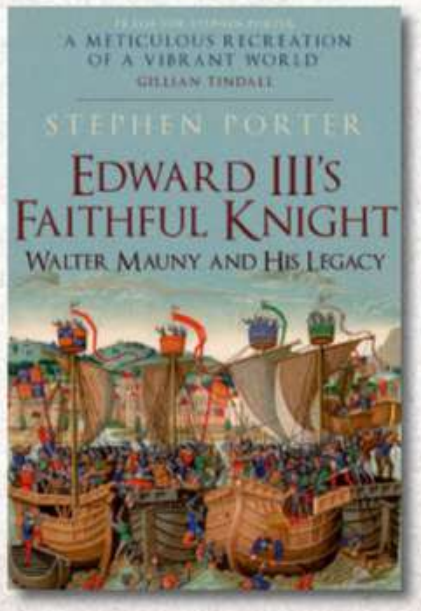
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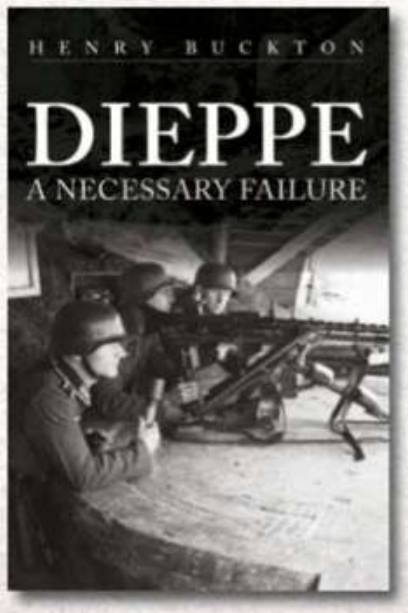

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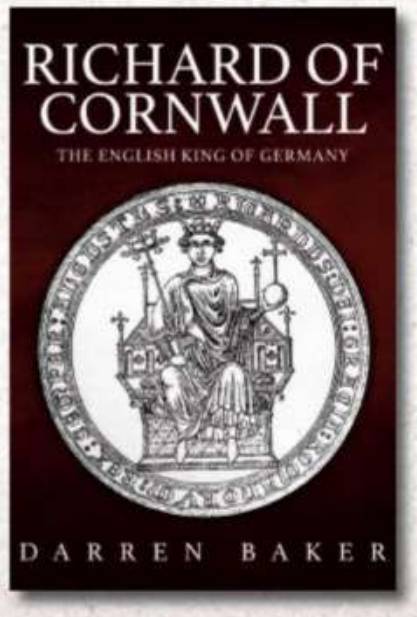

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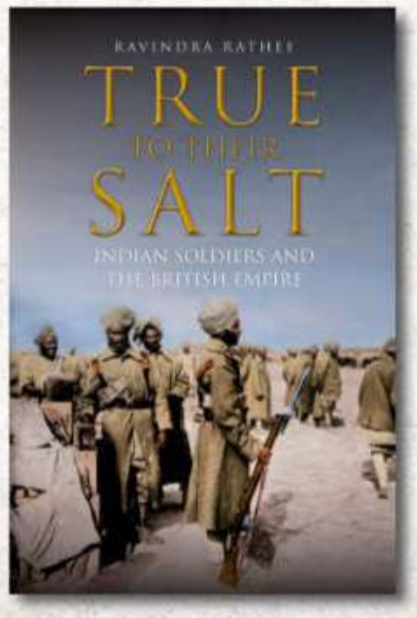

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